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THE
FLORAL MAGAZINE:



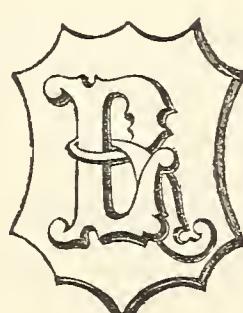
Figures and Descriptions
OF
POPULAR GARDEN FLOWERS.

BY THE
REV. H. H. DOMBRAIN, A.B.

1862.

THE PLATES BY J. ANDREWS, F.R.H.S.

VOL. II.



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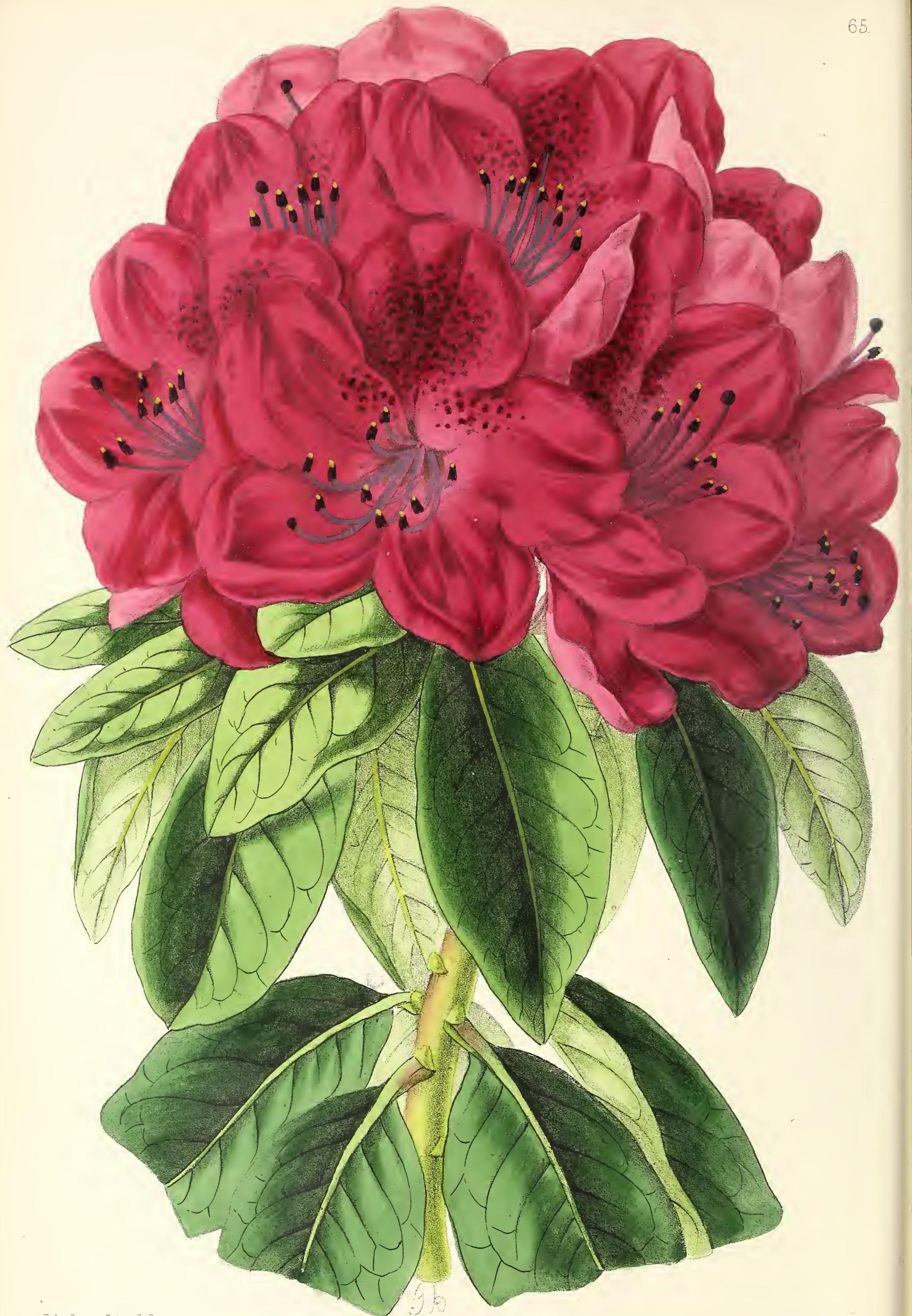


PLATE 65.

CLIMAX RHODODENDRON.

*Rhododendron catawbiense** (hyb.).

Many persons when they hear of a successful raiser of seedlings call him fortunate, and suppose that it is entirely the result of chance; and that he who secures the largest quantity of seed will obtain the largest number of valuable varieties. This is entirely a mistake. It is very true that many excellent seedlings were the result of pure chance, as far as the raiser was concerned, as *e.g.* *Lord Raglan Verbena* (still much esteemed, although an old flower), came up in the walk of Mr. Banks's garden at Sholden; but it is not true that science and skill have nothing to do with it in general. No flower has probably been more skilfully hybridized, or been more docile under its treatment, than the Rhododendron; and we cannot do better than give, in the words of the raiser of the beautiful variety figured in our Plate, the manner in which his success has been obtained. Our valued friend Mr. Standish, of Bagshot, says:—
“Twenty-five years ago I found that all the hybrids raised between *Rhododendron arboreum* and the different hardy species were either too tender or bloomed too early in the spring to be of any use as out-of-door plants, so I set to work in order to have them more hardy, and have succeeded quite to my expectation. I have found from my various crosses that, by breeding in and in, or for several crosses all from the same line, although they were bred from two distinct plants, and although I obtained good free bloomers and fine colours, still, being in the same line, I obtained diseased constitutions, and in many instances the plants would scarcely grow. Since then I have been breeding

* It is very difficult to give an accurate botanical description of these hybrid garden flowers, as the blood of so many species enters into them.

from *hybrids*; but I take great care to get quite distinct lines, such as the following. We have *arboreum*, down through several generations of *catawbiense*; the same through *maximum*, and the same through *caucasicum*, and several others. Then we have the *arboreum album* and *cinnamomeum* brought down through the same kinds, through endless generations. The great thing is to get hybrids from any of these that are not allied to each other, then you may get hardy late bloomers of all colours from these different hybrids that will be perfectly healthy. The present subject was raised from a hybrid *catawbiense* by a hybrid *maximum*, and the result is a hardy late-flowering scarlet-crimson Rhododendron. I have raised 120,000 seedling hybrids within these last two years, whites, reds, crimson, purples, and rose, which are perfectly hardy; but I have taken great care to select distinct lines of hybrids." It remains only to add, that *Climax* was exhibited at the opening fête of the Royal Horticultural Show, and was greatly admired. It is a deep scarlet-crimson in colour, spotted on the upper petals with soft dark spots; the foliage is of a bright glossy green, and the plant altogether very ornamental.



PLATE 66.

SMITH'S LYCURGUS AURICULA.

Primula Auricula, var.

The ardent and loudly expressed wish of all lovers of this beautiful spring flower, that a national exhibition of it should be held in London, seems well-nigh likely to be fulfilled, a larger number having been shown at one of the early spring shows of the Royal Botanic Society this season, than has been the case since the days when Mr. Dickson, of Acre Lane, and other growers, used to compete at "The Horns," Kennington. Independently of the plants staged for competition, Mr. Turner, of Slough, sent a collection of sixty varieties, and the Rev. George Jeans, of Alford, some fine plants of new kinds; and, if report be true, the number will be largely increased next season. Amongst the novelties sent by the latter gentleman, few excited so much admiration as the very fine variety figured in our Plate, and called *Lycurgus*. It is, we believe, of Scotch origin, and will deservedly take a high place amongst other flowers of the class to which it belongs, viz. the green-edged varieties. Its excellence will be seen, if we allude to those points which, in the estimation of connoisseurs, constitute a good Auricula. The individual flower or pip (several of which make up the truss) is composed of four parts,—the tube or eye, the paste, the ground-colour, and the edge; these should bear nearly an equal proportion in the flower. The eye ought to be orange, or, at any rate, a bright yellow, and the stamens and pistil should not project above it; the paste should be very white, solid, and without cracks; the ground-colour should be vivid and rich, equal on all sides, and should only be broken at its outer edge, and then ought not to run too far into the true edging of the flower, which should be quite pure and clean. It is not to be supposed that, although these



PLATE 67.

L'ENFANT TROUVÉ ROSE.

Rosa indica, var.

There is not probably a class of Roses which is more admired, especially by the fairer portion of the community, than the one to which this variety belongs. Tea Roses lack the glowing colours of the Hybrid Perpetuals and Bourbons, but their continuous blooming, their delicacy of colour, and sweetness of perfume, make ample amends for this; and though their home is in the East, yet they will stand, in the southern parts of our island, very severe winters, succeeding best however when they are planted against a south wall, or taken up in the autumn to be again put out in the spring.

The history of the one now figured is peculiar. It was exhibited at one of the June meetings of the Floral Committee of the Horticultural Society by Mr. B. F. Cant, the well-known rose-grower of Colchester, as *Aurora*, with a statement to the following effect, which subsequent investigation proved to be correct:—That he had received it nearly eleven years ago from a clergyman in the county, into whose possession it had come from Mr. Francis, of Hertford; that it had been frequently exhibited at the Rose Shows in that county, and had always been greatly admired. It had, however, gone out of cultivation, and Mr. Cant believed that he was the only rose-grower in the kingdom who possessed it. Under these circumstances, he was prepared, if it met the approval of the Committee, to carry out his determination of again distributing it to the public. The Committee were unanimous in their opinion of its merits, it being considered a magnificent flower, and from its colour very desirable; but, inasmuch as it was not a new Rose, and they were simply constituted a tribunal to judge of *new* flowers and plants, they could not give it any award. They were, however,

convinced that it was not *Aurora*; and recommended Mr. Cant, that, if sent out, it should come before the public under some other name. Its history considered, none could be more appropriate than the one it has received, for it is a veritable foundling. Mr. Cant further stated that it does well budded on the *Banksia*, or the common Briar; but also, as most of the same class, on its own roots. The plant from which the blooms sent had been cut, was on a Briar against a south wall.

The habit seems to approach more to the Noisettes, such as *Cloth of Gold* and others, the flowers standing nearly as erect above their foliage as that grand tea-scented Rose, *Gloire de Dijon*, and not having the failing of a great many (such as *Eliza Sauvage* and *Madame William*, to which it most nearly approaches) hanging down their heads when in bloom. The guard, or outer petals, are large, and of good substance. The shape quite globular, and the centre of the flower filled in with a large number of smaller petals. The colour is a rich light yellow, something of the same shade as the cream of rich milk, becoming dark towards the centre. It is very free in flowering, the plant from which the Rose was cut, which Mr. Andrews has so faithfully pourtrayed, having had between three and four dozen blooms upon it. With these distinctive characteristics, it cannot fail to be a valuable acquisition to the rose-grower and to the public in general.



PLATE 68.

THE DOUBLE-FLOWERED INIMITABLE
PETUNIA.

Petunia violacea, var. inimitabilis flore-pleno.

In one of the earlier numbers of this work, two varieties of Petunia were figured (Plate 30), one of which, *Annie Kien*, is evidently of the same strain as the far more beautiful and distinct variety now presented to our friends, and possibly few persons visited the various exhibitions held in London this spring without having their attention directed to it. It was first exhibited this season at a meeting of the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, by Messrs. Veitch, of King's Road Chelsea, and Exeter: it then obtained a first-class certificate, and was subsequently exhibited by them at the grand opening fête at Kensington Gore, and also by Mr. Pike, of Winchmore Hill, at the Royal Botanic Society's exhibition. It is said to be of French origin, from whence, strange to say, we receive a large number of the bizarre and curiously marked flowers which now occur in most garden varieties, in Pelargoniums, Dahlias, Pansies, Verbenas, etc. The first move in the direction of what are called fancy kinds has been made there, while the careful skill of the English hybridizer has given to them the form and substance which the foreign varieties generally lack. It is a matter of some consequence to find sorts of this flower which are short and compact in their growth, the long, straggling growth of many of them, both single and double, being greatly against them. This, as will be seen by reference to the Plate, is dwarf and close in its habit, the joints short, and the blooming profuse; hence it is admirably adapted for pot culture, the stems generally supporting the flower without the aid of artificial props. The flowers themselves are very striking, being white, with broad distant bands of deep

mauve, the shade of colour varying much (as in many flowers) on each plant, probably to be attributed to the age of the flower.

As the *Petunia* is very easily grown and propagated, doubtless this beautiful variety will very soon be found in all parts of the country, and will form a handsome plant for the decoration of conservatories and verandahs when Pelargoniums and other flowers are past their prime. There was exhibited at the Royal Botanic show in July, by Mr. Ferguson, of Stowe, a single variety in which each segment of the limb of the flower was marked by a distinct stripe down the centre, without any other blotching or veining; and this too we have no doubt will become a general favourite.



PLATE 69.

THE LARGE-FLOWERED DISA.

Disa grandiflora.

The extremely beautiful Orchid which Mr. Andrews has so faithfully portrayed, is one of which it was said, in a work of no slight authority, published not very long since, "It has hitherto baffled the skill of English cultivators," a statement which, owing to the ability and perseverance of one gentleman, is now no longer applicable to it, as thousands who visited the Exhibition of the Royal Horticultural Society this season have been enabled to testify. The merit of overcoming the difficulty is due entirely to Charles Leach, Esq., of King's Road, Clapham Park, to whose courtesy we are indebted for our Plate, permission to make a drawing of it in his greenhouse having been in the kindest manner granted to our artist.

Few lovers of flowers who had correspondents at the Cape of Good Hope, but received, amongst their Brunsvigias, Vallotas, and what are called Cape bulbs in general, roots of *Disa grandiflora*, and the opinion was naturally formed that, like other bulbs, it had its season of rest, consequently it was allowed to grow for a time, and then dried off, never, it was found, to revive again. Mr. Leach had in a similar way oftentimes received it, and as often lost it: but he noticed, some two or three years ago, that one plant of it retained its freshness till far on towards the winter, and it then occurred to him that as it was a bog plant, possibly it did not dry up at all; he consequently kept it watered, and the result has been that plants which we ourselves saw, had, in the course of fifteen months, from a very small piece, completely filled a large pan, and thrown up spikes of bloom. The same course of treatment was adopted, with slight modifications, by Herr Schiller, of Hamburg, and we believe that in the course of time it will not only be grown in

every greenhouse, but that it will be planted out in sheltered places in gentlemen's demesnes, near streams or ponds, where it will readily grow during the summer months; for amongst other experiments which Mr. Leach is trying, is that of growing it in a pot placed in another filled with water, and in this position it seems to thrive admirably, as we can ourselves state from the condition of a plant, for which we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Leach.

Disa grandiflora is a native of a ravine on the top of Table Mountain at the Cape of Good Hope, and as far as is known at present, no other habitat has been found for it, a remarkable instance of the very local distribution of some plants. It is what is called a terrestrial Orchid, and as the thermometer often sinks there to 32° , it can be grown in any greenhouse from which frost is excluded. The spike is thrown up about eighteen inches or two feet high, and the very beautiful and high-coloured flowers are freely produced. The colouring of the Plate is so accurate, that it is unnecessary to describe it. There seem however to be two varieties; in the other, the green tips to the sepals are wanting, and the rich crimson spotting of the labellum is not perhaps quite so brilliant. We have only to add that the general acknowledgment of the gardening world is that it was one of the most interesting subjects of the year, and, although an old plant, was far more so, not only from the peculiarities of its cultivation, but from its intrinsic beauty, than many so-called novelties.

Our artist has given an outline sketch of a growing plant, in order to show its character; it will be thus seen to be very free-flowering.



PLATE 70.

THE COPPER-COLOURED MIMULUS.

Mimulus cupreus.

If there be one word which more than another has increased in value in the gardening world, it is that of "hardy;" and when we can prefix to it "perfectly," the flower so designated at once establishes its character. The last winter was so fatal in most places to the fairest productions of our parterres and shrubberies; before that terrible frost, following the wet and sunless summer, plants and flowers we had long ceased to think of as tender, fell in such multitudes, that many despair of ever seeing their gardens as they were previously. When the choicest Roses and the finest Conifers, nay, when our universal favourite the Laurustinus, and even (as at Elvaston) our common English Holly, were killed to the ground, we can thoroughly understand how much gardeners will prize anything which can be pronounced as "perfectly hardy." It is this, as well as their intrinsic beauty, that gives such importance to those rare and beautiful variegated plants sent home by Mr. Fortune from Japan, and that, for the same reasons, will make the plant we now figure so very desirable.

Mimulus cupreus was exhibited by Messrs. Veitch and Son, of the Exotic Nursery, Chelsea and Exeter, at the opening fête of the Royal Horticultural Society, in a collection of miscellaneous plants, which received a special award. It was then greatly admired for its exceedingly dwarf habit and the unusual colour of the flowers. We are indebted to the kindness of Messrs. Veitch, of Exeter, for the following extract from their correspondent's letter in Chili:—"A beautiful thing, not essentially differing from *Mimulus luteus* in form, except that it would be dwarfer and more delicate, but having flowers of the richest orange-crimson, if may use the term; in fact, an almost

indescribable colour; decidedly a gem in its way, and perfectly hardy." It grows from four to eight inches high, in a stiff loam, at an elevation of six thousand to seven thousand feet above the sea, at Chellan, in South Chili. Like all the tribe, the individual flowers are of an evanescent character, but it blooms so very profusely, that this is of comparatively minor importance. Our artist has represented two distinct tints of colour in the blooms, one lighter than the other, doubtless the result of age. It will be very easily propagated by either cuttings or divisions of the roots, and will therefore probably ere long find its way into general cultivation.



PLATE 71.

VARIETIES OF HEARTSEASE OR PANSEY.

Viola tricolor, var.

It is sometimes said of the growers of florist flowers, that they lay down rules with regard to the form and marking of their special favourites, which are either impracticable, or, if obtained, are of no advantage to the flower; and of floral delineators, that they make their subjects more perfect than they are in nature. But we have ever found that by placing two flowers side by side, one of which fulfilled the required conditions, the other not, and then appealing to those who were not florists, they have always acknowledged that, however apparently conventional the rules, they are founded on good taste and a just appreciation of beauty; and if any one considers the drawing of the florist varieties in the present Plate too perfect, we can only say that when *Lady Lucy Dundas* was exhibited by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, it was pronounced to be the nearest approach to a perfect circle that had as yet been obtained in this class.

We have, in fact, in order to show the difference between a well-formed flower and one not of good shape, placed on our Plate four varieties,* two of what are called florist varieties, and two of a race lately introduced from Belgium and France

- * 1. **BELLE ESQUIMAUX** (Fancy): pale-yellowish ground, crimson upper petals, an enormous eye of the same colour, and the belting on the lower petal nearly covering it.
- 2. **MIRACLE** (Fancy): creamy-white, with large eye and blotch of deep-purple.
- 3. **LADY LUCY DUNDAS** (*D.*, *L.*, and *L.*): clear white ground and deep purplish-maroon belting; an exquisite flower.
- 4. **REV. THOMAS DOWNIE** (*D.*, *L.*, and *L.*): deep golden-yellow, with a deep bronzy-purple belting, fine large dark blotch.

(and in which we foresee great improvements)—*fancies*, and we think every one would acknowledge that the latter would gain much were they of the same exquisite rotundity as the former. The four varieties were all exhibited, amongst many others, by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Edinburgh, and Stanstead Park, Forest Hill, who are not only very successful growers, but raisers of some very beautiful varieties; and indeed the larger number of the finest flowers are now raised by the indefatigable perseverance of our friends across the Tweed. The greater coolness and moisture of Scotland seem to be more favourable to their growth than our more sunny south, it being with great difficulty that during a dry summer a collection can be kept alive here. Florist varieties of Pansies are divided into three classes:—1. Selfs, which are either dark purple, shaded purple, white, or yellow. 2. Yellow grounds, in which the colour is either pale or light yellow, marked with various shades of maroon, crimson, puce, chocolate, etc., with the eye dense and of the same colour as the edge of the petals. 3. White grounds, where the colour must be pure white and the edges either blue or purple, with the eye of the same colour. Examples of the two latter classes are to be found in the *Rev. Thomas Downie* and *Lady Lucy Dundas*. Fancy or Belgian and French varieties have not yet been classified, and indeed their bizarre character at present would make that exceedingly difficult.



PLATE 72.

GERANIUM PRINCE OF HESSE.

Geranium zonale, var.

The modern style of gardening popularly known as the "bedding-out system," has led to the cultivation and improvement by hybridizing of the old horseshoe and other varieties of the Geranium tribe, and the result has been the production of many kinds of very dissimilar habits and markings both in the foliage and in the flowers. In effecting this, two objects have been gained: the obtaining of sorts very desirable for continuance of bloom and power of withstanding the influence of weather; and of others which are more suitable for indoor decoration at a period of the year when greenhouses are denuded of their regular occupants. The want of keeping these two objects distinct has often led to disappointment in purchasers. A sort is raised which as a seedling and in the greenhouse looks very beautiful, but is not tested out-of-doors sufficiently before it is sent out; it is then tried in the garden, and is found not to be capable of bearing the change of temperature to which we are subject in our uncertain climate. Most of the tricoloured zone varieties are of this latter character.

The variety which we now figure was raised by that very successful hybridizer Mr. Ingram, of the Royal Gardens, Frogmore, to whom we are indebted for *Frogmore Improved*, *Princess Royal*, and other sorts, and for some of our best varieties of Strawberries and other fruits. The stock of it has passed into the hands of Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, who exhibited it at one of the meetings of the Floral Committee, when it received a label of commendation. It was then named *Prince Louis of Hesse*, but by command of Her Majesty the Queen, was changed into *Prince of Hesse*. It is one of those sorts which will be more suitable for the greenhouse

than for the open ground. The colour of it is a beautiful salmon-rose, shading off in the edges of the petals to a more delicate shade of the same, the centre of the flower being also of a lighter colour; the foliage is very handsome, strongly marked with the horseshoe; and the flowers are produced in great abundance, the individual trusses being large; and as it was exhibited so early in the year, it would seem to be one of those varieties which bloom freely in the winter, and if so, it will be very suitable for cutting from, for bouquets and for general decorative effect. It will be distributed to the public next spring, when a favourable opportunity of testing its general merits will be afforded—merits which have been acknowledged not only by the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, but also at the Royal Botanic Society's and Crystal Palace Exhibitions, and which we therefore think must be considerable.



PLATE 73.

HYBRID PERPETUAL ROSE, REYNOLDS
HOLE.

Rosa (hybrida), var.

The history of the Rose is unlike that of any other flower—No flower has been so universally admired, or employed for such various purposes: it has been the theme of the poet's song, and has been used in Holy Writ as the emblem of all that is glorious; while amongst the luxurious Romans it pandered to their lusts, and added, it was supposed, zest to their feasts. Ever since Sappho called it the Queen of Flowers, it has never lost its proud pre-eminence; and now, fostered by the hand of man, who has expended on it skill, perseverance, and labour, it has acquired a size, a beauty, and a permanence the ancients never knew of. “The last rose of summer” becomes a myth, for far on into dreary November the races of Hybrid Perpetuals, Teas, and Bourbons, favour us with their beautiful blooms.

During the present century the progress of the Rose, both in general favour and in intrinsic excellence, has been most remarkable. So popular is it now, that the Metropolis holds two exhibitions, one at Kensington Gore, the other at the Crystal Palace, to do it alone honour, and to these places are brought the choicest productions of the best Rose-gardens in England; and at both of them this year the variety which we now figure was deservedly admired. It was exhibited by our kind friend Mr. John Standish, of the Royal Nursery, Bagshot, to whom we are also indebted for the very fine bloom forwarded to our artist, which he has so faithfully reproduced.

The class of Hybrid Perpetuals to which “*Reynolds Hole*” belongs, is one which seems destined to ere long entirely supersede the Summer Roses, which so long a time held the first

place in popular favour. The exquisite forms of such Roses as *Coupe d'Hebé* and *Charles Lawson* are now equalled by *Comtesse de Chabrilland* and *Madame Vidot*, the glowing colours of *Paul Ricaut* and *Brennus*, are not more brilliant than *Gloire de Santhenay* and *Jules Margottin*; and although there are still a few Roses whose peculiar colours and shapes are as yet unapproached, such as *Boula de Nanteuil* and *Kean*, yet we may hope ere long to see even these matched in this class. We have nearly, too, approached a white in *Mademoiselle Bonnaire*; and in "*Reynolds Hole*" we have as lively and bright a pink as is to be found in the whole range of Summer Roses.

With but a few exceptions, all the new Roses come from France (a few have lately been introduced from America; and *Devoniensis* and one or two others are of English origin). The subject of the present Plate was raised by M. Trouillard, the intelligent foreman of M. Le Roy, of Angers, and from him it has passed into the hands of Mr. Standish, who has named it in compliment to a gentleman who, in originating the National Rose Show, has perhaps done more for the popularity of the Queen of Flowers than any one living. The habit of the plant is most vigorous, the shoots being very strong, and the blooms well thrown up above the foliage. The shape is exquisite, and the petals are of great substance and size, and consequently, unlike many of its congeners, it does not fade off when out for a day or two; but, on the contrary, acquires deeper brilliancy of colour, which is a very lively pink. Mr. Standish purposes sending it out next May, together with some other excellent varieties, the stock of which is in his hands.

Amongst the new Roses of the year, we think *Madame Fur-tado*, *General Washington*, *Duc de Cazes*, *Triomphe d'Amiens*, and *L'Enfant Trouvé*, are likely to prove valuable additions to the Rose-garden.



PLATE 74.

PINKS, DR. MACLEAN AND DELICATA.

Dianthus Caryophyllus, var.

Notwithstanding the great difference in appearance between the Pink, Carnation, and Picotee, most botanists are agreed in regarding them as merely varieties of the Clove-Pink, and to it we have referred the subjects of the present Plate.

Like many other flowers, it has of late years received a great deal of attention, and has been much improved both in size and beauty of appearance, although at the present moment there is a curious difference between the growers of Pinks in the north and south of England; the Northerns contending that the southern flowers are *mops*, and the Southerners retorting by declaring a Pink with two rows of petals does not deserve the name of a flower. Various attempts have been made to reconcile this contrariety of taste, but without effect, and in some of the Southern lists may be seen some flowers marked with an asterisk, with the notification that they are more suited for Northern growers.

The cultivator who has above all others contributed to the present advanced position of the Pink, is the veteran florist Dr. Maclean of Colchester. A glance at Mr. Turner's Catalogue, or indeed that of any grower, will show that by far the larger proportion of the best flowers are of his raising, and it is only fitting that one of such superior quality should bear his name. We once had the pleasure of visiting him when his Pinks were in bloom, and found, as it is with many of our most successful florists, that it was not the size of his garden, but his own skill and judgment, that had contributed to his success. He then said he must retire from the field to give place to younger and better men; but we hope and believe his threat will not be fulfilled.

It is but fair, however, to our friends to say that such blooms as those which Mr. Andrews has figured have been subjected to a process known amongst florists as "dressing." (The same may be said of the Carnations and Picotees figured in our last volume.) As symmetry of form and regularity of outline is so much admired, an exhibitor does not hesitate to supply by a little manipulation what he believes to be defects; *nothing is added* to a flower, but the petals are arranged more regularly, and any defective ones extracted. This is a perfectly well-known fact amongst all growers, and is beginning to be understood by the public in general. Many varieties, however, which have long pods, as the bud is technically called, open quite flat, and require no dressing whatever.

The two varieties now figured were exhibited by Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, by whom they were raised, at a meeting of the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society in June last, when a first-class certificate was awarded to *Delicata* (Fig. 2). It is a very fine full-sized variety; the lacing being of a light lively purple, and the spot at the base of each petal of a deeper shade of the same colour. *Dr. Maclean* (Fig. 1) is another very attractive flower, the lacing being very deep and rich, and although it did not receive any award, we have but little doubt that it will hold an equally high place with its more successful companion. They are both exceedingly vigorous growers, and will both, we believe, be general favourites.



PLATE 75.

HYBRID GREENHOUSE GERANIUMS.

Pelargonium (hybridum), var.

If there be one flower which more than another deserves the name of “Everybody’s Flower,” it is the Pelargonium; for everywhere we meet with it: in the cottage-window, in the lonely garret, and even within the prison walls—more cherished perhaps than when in the conservatory of the nobleman or the boudoir of the lady of fashion, and this not merely from its intrinsic beauty, great as that is, but also from the easiness of its culture. While it will, like everything else, show the effects of good care and attention, it will also endure an amount of hardship which would kill another flower.

The advances that it has made in popular favour have been very great. We can well remember the time when the Rev. Mr. Garth, of Farnham, and Mr. Forster, of Clewer Manor, first started in the race for public favour, and nothing was heard of but Garth’s *Sylph* and Forster’s *Joan of Arc*. At that time there was but one class, those known now as Florists’ Geraniums. Some years afterwards, those now designated as Fancies were introduced, at first ill-shaped in form and faint in colour, now perfectly symmetrical and of very beautiful tints. The appearance of one variety with spots in each petal was the *avant-courier* of a race now known as Spotted Pelargoniums, while some years ago M. Chauvière, of the Rue de la Rochette, Paris, turning his attention to them, first led the way in the curiously bizarre and spotted varieties known now as French Pelargoniums; so that, independently of the bedding varieties of *Geranium*, there are now four distinct classes, vying with one another in brightness of colouring, symmetry of form, and beauty of foliage.

The most celebrated raisers of seedlings have been now for

some years, Mr. Forster, above mentioned; Mr. Hoyle, of Reading, whose flowers are of very beautiful shape and generally form the largest portion of those exhibited at the great annual shows held in London; Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough; Mr. Dobson, of Isleworth; and the late Mr. Beck, of Worton Cottage, Isleworth. The flowers now figured were raised by the latter gentleman, one who was well known, and whose memory will be long cherished as an upright, intelligent, and enthusiastic grower. They were exhibited by his gardener, Mr. Wiggins, at the Royal Horticultural Society, this year, and are to be distributed this autumn by Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough.

Mira (1) is a flower of great clearness of petal, very smooth and distinct, with a rich large spot of deep crimson in each petal, shading off into a lighter colour towards the edge, and leaving a clear margin of rose around.

Sylph (2) is a flower of extreme purity, a glossy white, and with a deep decided spot in the top petals, giving the flower an appearance of considerable novelty. Both are free-growing varieties, and we believe will be general favourites. Flowers larger and perhaps more circular in shape have been exhibited, but we have considered these well worthy of a place in our Magazine from the beauty of their appearance.



PLATE 76.

HYBRID SHRUBBY SLIPPERWORT.

*Calceolaria (hybrida),** var.

Some years ago there was a great *furore* for Calceolarias, and many very beautifully marked and well formed varieties were obtained by Messrs. Kinghorn and other raisers of florists' flowers, but they were of the *herbaceous* kind, and it was found almost impossible to keep up the sorts, owing to the extreme difficulty of preserving them through the winter months, as they are very apt, in technical language, to "fog off." At last the attempt was abandoned, and a fine strain of seed having been obtained by several growers, such as Messrs. Henderson, of St. John's Wood, Mr. Dobson, of Isleworth, Mr. Cattell, of Westerham, etc., lovers of the tribe now find it better to purchase seed from them every year, and treat the flowers simply as *annuals*. Other growers, amongst whom we may mention Mr. Cole, of St. Alban's, attempted to obtain a race of plants which, crossed with some of the herbaceous kinds, should exhibit their size and markings combined with the growth of the more hardy species, (of these, "*Gem*" may be considered the type,) but there was too much of the herbaceous blood in them, and consequently they became also neglected. It was reserved to a nurseryman hitherto unknown, to originate a race, which seems, we believe, destined likely to accomplish this desirable end, and the seedlings raised and exhibited by Mr. Burley, of

* Although we have given this botanical name to these flowers, we feel it is not strictly correct: a hybrid is the product of two distinct *species*; but the garden varieties of most popular flowers are not *hybrids* in this sense, inasmuch as they are frequently the *products* of *hybrids*, and these plants have perhaps the blood of several species in them; but the above must be used for want of a better, though we know the difficulty of affixing botanical names and botanical descriptions to the popular flowers of the greenhouse and garden.

Limpsfield, Surrey, seem likely to become general favourites. He has been now for many years engaged in it, and every year his skill and perseverance have been rewarded by an advance in form, size, and markings; the plants which he has exhibited at the various exhibitions during the season have been of large size, and have attracted general attention, and he informs us that they can be kept in bloom from May to October, while some of them are likely to form excellent varieties for bedding out. It is well known that the Calceolaria suffers much from green-fly; but if this is attended to (fumigating so as to keep it down whenever it appears), and shading during the midday sun, there are no plants of easier culture in the greenhouse than these. The varieties now figured are, (1) *angustifolia superba*, and (2) *Duke of Wellington* ;* the former is a seedling from the old *angustifolia*, and has the advantages of the parent plant; erect in habit, it stands the weather well, and lasts on far into the autumn. Mr. Burley says, that he has had it bedded out for the last two years, and that he has not seen a single plant of it die, as Calceolarias are very apt to do in the summer months. It was awarded an extra prize at the Royal Botanic Society's Exhibition at the Regent's Park, last June. *Duke of Wellington* is a seedling between *angustifolia globosa* and *General Havelock*, shrubby and dwarf in growth, like the former, but the colour closely approaches the latter well-known variety. Being a rich dark-crimson, it makes a first-rate bedding plant. Both of these will be sent out next spring. The following sorts, raised by Mr. Burley, are both handsome and moderate in price:—

Etna: crimson, tinted with violet.

Little Dorrit: soft yellow.

Magenta: dark velvet-crimson.

Princess Helena: yellow.

Hon. Mrs. Adams: primrose, spotted with crimson.

The Queen: yellow, cinnabar spots.

Victor Emmanuel: red-scarlet, with crimson spots.

General Havelock: rich maroon.

Lady Palmerston: yellow, with red spots.

Ambassador: brown, with red spots.

* These have been selected as valuable bedding varieties. We hope at some future time to figure some of the spotted kinds.

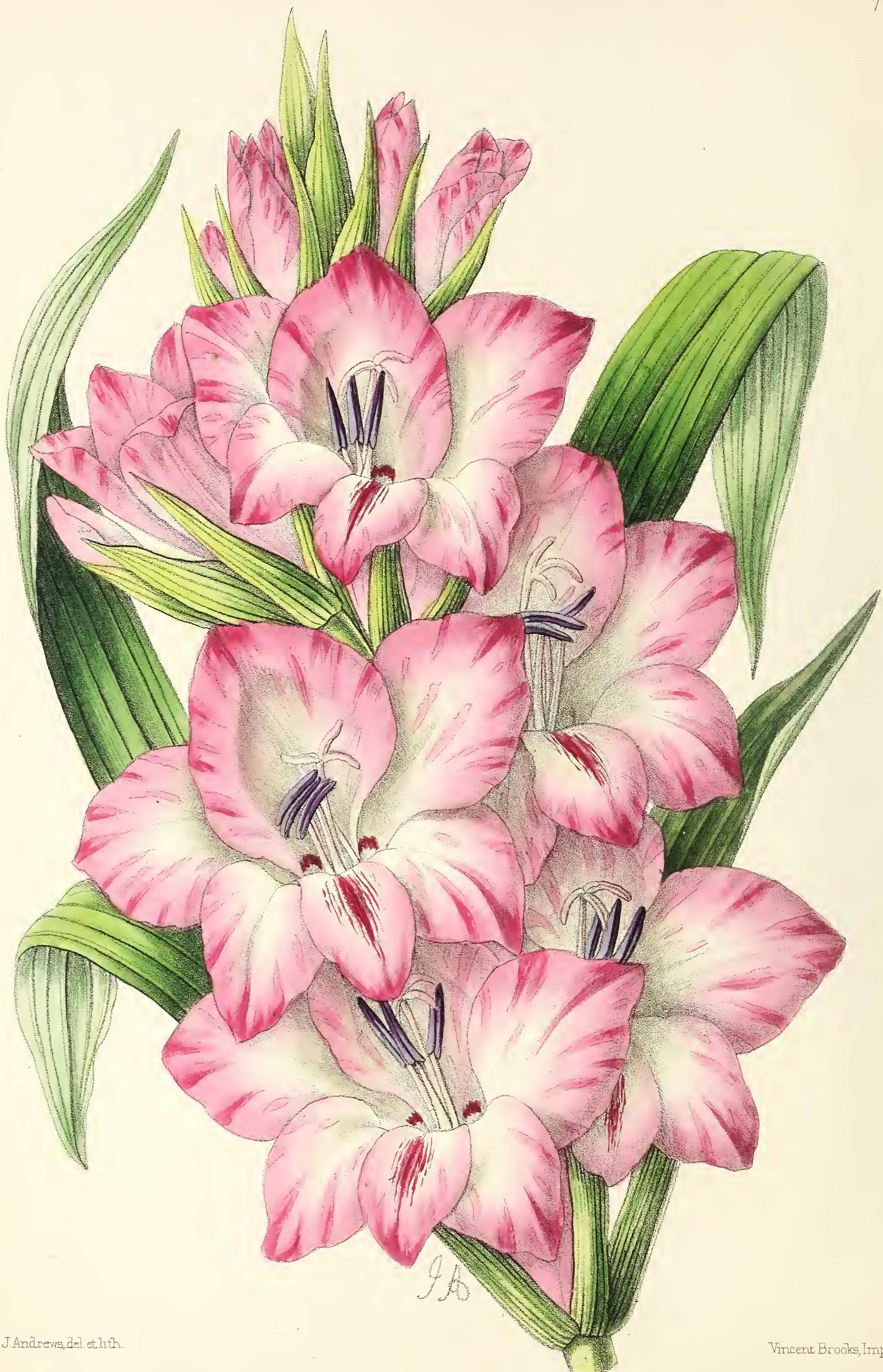


PLATE 77.

GLADIOLUS, MRS. DOMBRAIN.

Gladiolus gandavensis, var.

Some three or four years ago, Her Majesty the Queen was greatly pleased with some varieties of Gladiolus, of French origin, and instructions were given to the gardener at Osborne to cultivate them, as they would be frequently required as cut flowers for table decoration. Under such patronage, the flower has now become one of the most fashionable of the day, and forms an agreeable variety in the autumn exhibitions of florists' flowers.

At that time application was made by Her Majesty's gardener to one who was, and is still, the most celebrated raiser in France, M. Souchet, for some hints as to the best manner of growing them. He very kindly wrote a short treatise upon it, and it having been shown to our valued friend Mr. Standish, of Bagshot, it immediately occurred to him that the soil recommended for it was such as his nursery supplied, and being a skilful hybridizer, he immediately commenced on a large scale, and so successful has he been that he has already five hundred varieties sufficiently good to be kept under name, equalling in colour, size, and shape any of those introduced from the Continent. He selected as the parents of his stock two flowers of valuable properties, *Adonis* and *Ninon de l'Enclos*, and has thus obtained his stock; but finding, as is always the case, that breeding in-and-in, however it may produce beauty of colouring, also engenders tenderness of constitution, he has, in order to avoid this, from time to time introduced the *blood* of some of the best foreign ones, and hence his varieties are distinguished for vigour of constitution as well as for beauty.

The Gladiolus is very easily cultivated, and will succeed well in any light garden soil. It does not, as was at first supposed, dis-

like manure, as we can testify from the manner in which it has succeeded in our own garden ; but it is necessary that it should be well decomposed. Another point to be carefully attended to is, the drying of the bulbs: this should be done quickly, as they are apt to contract mildew if dried off gradually.

The variety now figured, *Mrs. Dombrain*, is one of Mr. Stan-dish's numerous seedlings. The ground colour is a very light blush, approaching to white, merging into a deep rose-colour towards the tips, and distinctly striped with bright rosy-carmine bars: the lip has a very bright carmine bar in its centre, and in the centre of the throat there are two very bright crimson spots, altogether presenting a very charming appearance, en-hanced by the fact, that, unlike some varieties in which the flowers are set back to back in two rows, in this they are placed side by side.

It has been questioned whether the *Gladiolus* will be suc-cessful as a decorative plant. We believe that to effect this clumps or masses of it of one colour must be planted ; but we apprehend it will be even more valued as a florist's flower.



PLATE 78.

LAMARCK'S EVENING PRIMROSE.

Œnothera Lamarckiana.

There are a large number of persons who are hindered, by want of means or other circumstances, from falling into the now almost universal system of gardening; for where facilities cannot be had for wintering Verbenas, bedding Geraniums, and other tender plants, now so extensively used, it is, of course, simply impossible, without incurring the expense of buying plants every spring, to bed out in any extensive way.

It is amongst this class of persons that annuals and biennials find so much favour. They are easy of cultivation, a few packages of seed are sufficient for a moderate-sized garden, and they afford a good deal of variety, not only in the colour of the flowers, but in their form, and a judicious selection of sorts will enable persons to have them in bloom for the greater portion of the year, from the time that *Nemophila insignis* opens its clear blue petals, down to the last *Aster* that falls a victim to the October frost; but we would deprecate the loose and irregular way in which such things are often done: a circle is first made, and then enough seed thrown in to sow ten times the space; if they were sown more carefully and not so thickly, or thinned out afterwards, annuals and biennials would present a much more respectable appearance than they often do.

In our last volume, a variety of *Œnothera*, called *Œ. Youngii*, was figured (Plate 54), but a reference to that will show, compared with the present, how very distinct they are. The one now figured was grown by Messrs. Carter and Co., the well-known seedsmen of High Holborn, and of the Crystal Palace nursery, Forest Hill; and to them we are indebted for the following particulars:—

“ We received, about four years ago, some seed from Texas

unnamed. When we had flowered it, we sent some blooms to Dr. Lindley, who pronounced it to be *Œnothera Lamarckiana* a species, we believe, introduced into England by Mr. Drummond. Its height is between three and four feet; it blooms the first year, is a very hardy biennial, and is superior to any other *Œnothera* in the size and number of its blossoms, which measure four inches in diameter. The colour is a rich golden-yellow (the pollen on the stamens being orange, relieves the uniformity of tint). On a single plant, we counted upwards of six hundred open blooms, buds, and seed-pods."

The drawing was made from a small spray, and will give an idea of the profuseness of its bloom, as well as of the compact character of its growth. We doubt not that, like other biennial species, if sown in autumn, it would stand through the winter, and bloom early in spring.



PLATE 79.

TRIOMPHE D'AMIENS ROSE.

Rosa hybrida, var.

When the report was current last autumn that, amongst the new Roses to be introduced from the Continent, one was to be "yellow as a Jonquil, and the other striped like a Carnation," rosarians were in great delight, which would have been more intense, doubtless, but for the fact that they have been accustomed to find out that there is some difference between promise and performance, especially in the matter of French Roses. One of these, *Boule d'Or*, has not, as yet, answered the expectations formed of it, though we saw it lately in great beauty in the garden of the raiser, M. Margottin, of Bourg-la-Reine, near Paris; but we can, we think, safely say that *Triomphe d'Amiens* has fully maintained the good opinion that was formed of it.

We believe that we are correct in saying that this very beautiful and distinct variety was raised by M. Meillez, of Amiens, and that it is a seedling from *General Jacqueminot*, which Rose it somewhat resembles in the character of its foliage, though considerably more double than that favourite flower. The colour is a rich and deep crimson, distinctly barred and splashed with stripes of a deeper shade, giving it a very characteristic and distinct appearance. The petals are large, and slightly inclined to curl at the edge. The plant itself seems to be vigorous, although it has not that thickness of wood which marks *Reynolds Hole* and some other varieties. Owing to the manner in which new plants are worked upon for stock, it is rarely that a Rose is seen in good condition the first season, and we quite expect to see the subject of our present notice in much better condition next year; and we have the authority of our good friend the Rev. W. F. Radclyffe, of Rushton, near

Blandford, (than whom a more enthusiastic rose-grower does not exist,) for saying that he considers it one of the most striking flowers of the season.

The desire for having Roses on their own roots having been now unmistakably expressed, the subject of stocks is not perhaps of that importance it formerly was; the *Manetti*, introduced by Mr. Rivers, has been greatly praised by some, and as loudly denounced by others. Our own impression is, that it is an excellent stock for light soils, or for vigorous varieties on heavy soils, but that it does not suit the more delicate-growing ones. We were therefore interested in noticing, at a visit lately paid by us to M. Leroy's nursery at Angers, in France, that it is his practice to grow seedling plants of the common Briar, and to bud or graft the weaker-growing roses on it, a practice which we saw had succeeded admirably, and one we think well worthy the consideration of English growers.

There is no lack of new varieties, as we believe upwards of eighty are announced this season, the greater portion of which will doubtless be discarded; and the most promising of which are, we believe, *Souvenir de Comte Cavour* and *Alexandre Dumas*, seedlings received by M. Margottin, the raiser of *Louise Odier* and *Jules Margottin*.



PLATE 80.

LIGHT-EDGED PICOTEEES.

Dianthus Caryophyllus, var.

Amidst the revived taste for florists' flowers, of which we may discover considerable traces around us, we hope the numerous varieties of Carnations and Picotees will be considered worthy of cultivation; for, although they doubtless entail a vast deal of trouble, both in their growth and blooming, and are comparatively a short time in flower, yet there is something so exquisitely beautiful and delicate in them, we do not wonder that whenever exhibited they attract a large share of attention, and that sometimes the uninitiated believe that they must be artificial, so delicate is the colouring, and so thick and wax-like the petal.

Picotees are divided into six distinct classes,—red-edged, purple-edged, and rose- or scarlet-edged, of each of these there being two classes, known as heavy and light edges, this term being applied not to intensity of the colour, but to the breadth of it on the edge; and in our Plate we give representations, most carefully and faithfully made, by Mr. Andrews, of two of the newest varieties produced. They were exhibited by Mr. Turner, of Slough, at one of the meetings of the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, along with some other seedlings, and were greatly admired. No. 1, *Mrs. Hole* (named in compliment to the wife of the Rev. S. Reynolds Hole), is a light red-edged flower, of good properties; the petals are large, and of good substance, and of a pure white; the edge is of a clear bright red, confined to the margin of the petal, without bar or spot, and the habit of the plant is good. The flower itself reminds one of *Turner's Eugénie*, but the white is much purer than in that favourite variety. It received a label of commendation. No. 2, *Lady Elcho*, is a very pretty example

of the light-edged purple varieties, the colour being quite confined to the edge, and the white also being very pure: the habit of the plant is also good. Both varieties are in the possession of Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough; but, owing to the stock being small, they will not be distributed to the public this season, as was at first intended.

As this period of the year is the one most suitable for procuring sorts, and as we hope to induce some of our friends to essay their growth, we think we cannot do better than append a list of a few of the most striking varieties in each class, distinguished for their beauty and excellence of habit, and at the same time moderate in price.

Red-edged.

Ada Mary (Smith); very fine, light.
Eugénie (Turner); light.
Lauretta (Smith); light.
Miss Holbeck (Kirtland); light.
Charlemagne (Turner); heavy.
Mrs. Dodwell (Turner); heavy.
Mrs. Hoyle (Hoyle); heavy.
Favorita (Kirtland); heavy.

Purple-edged.

Amy Robsart (Dodwell); light.
Eliza (Payne); light.
Finis (May); light.
National (Kirtland); light.

John Linton (Headley); heavy.

Lord Nelson (Norman); heavy.

Mrs. May (Turner); heavy.

Rival Purple (Headley); heavy.

Rose- and Scarlet-edged.

Miss Meeking (Kirtland); light.

Bertha (Marris); light.

Eva (Smith); light.

Mrs. Turner (Dodwell); light.

Princess Alice (Kirtland); heavy.

Rev. H. Matthews (Kirtland); heavy.

Lady Grenville (Turner); heavy.

Mrs. Drake (Turner); heavy.



PLATE 81.

MANGLES' ANIGOZANTHUS.

*Anigozanthus** *Manglesii.*

The very remarkable-looking flower, of which we have now the pleasure of presenting a portrait to our friends, is not a new one; but as it has received this season a special certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and as we entertain strong hopes that the difficulties which have heretofore attended its cultivation will be so overcome as to entitle it to the appellation of a “popular flower,” we have thought it desirable to include it in our present issue.

The plant was first introduced into England in 1833, seeds of it having been sent in that year by Sir James Sterling, Governor of Swan River, to Robert Mangles, Esq., of Whitmore Lodge, Berks,† and under the care of his gardener (who having grown it in an airy part of the greenhouse in the winter, planted it out in the open border, in a compost composed of maiden loam, leaf-mould, and bog-earth) it thrrove very well, and in about ten months from the time of the seed being sown, showed its singular scapes of bloom. Whether this treatment was unsuited for it permanently or not,‡ we do not know; but, at any rate, it seemed to have acquired the bad character of “fogging off” in winter, and hence had been almost lost sight of, until in the present year the very fine plant from which our figure was taken, was exhibited by Mr. Kinghorn, of Sheen Nursery, Richmond, and not only received the special award to which we have already referred, but was pronounced by Dr.

* The generic name is derived from *ανεσχω*, ‘I raise up,’ and *ανθος*, ‘a flower,’ from bearing up proudly its crown of flowers.

† Maund's Botanist, where it is figured, ii. t. 67. It is also figured in Bot. Mag. t. 3875, and in Sweet's Flower Garden, ii. t. 265.

‡ It was wintered in a cold frame.

Hooker, in a letter which has been kindly handed to us, to be the finest plant of it by far that he had ever seen.

Mr. Kinghorn informs us that the seed was presented to him in July of last year by H. W. Pownall, Esq., of Richmond, who received them from his brother, the Very Rev. George P. Pownall, Dean of Perth, Western Australia, labelled, "Anigozanthus, or Kangaroo's-foot plant, the finest flower we have collected near this city." He succeeded in raising one plant, which was re-potted occasionally in rough turfy loam, a little peat, and rough, dry, old manure, as he conceived it to be a plant requiring liberal culture, but one that would not stand rich, damp, or close soil. On being removed to the greenhouse it grew very fast, and produced three of its singular scapes of bloom. Up to this time (December) it has shown no disposition to damp.

Anigozanthus Manglesii is a perennial herbaceous plant, the flowers large and showy, and everywhere covered with feathery hairs, some greenish, others a bright-red; the colour of the perianth velvety rich-green, and altogether presenting an appearance of a very striking and unique character. It remains only to add, that Mr. Kinghorn anticipates that he shall be able freely to propagate it by division of the roots, and hopes in the course of next year to introduce it to the public, with whom, we believe, it will be generally as much admired as it was by those who saw it when it was exhibited at Kensington Gore.

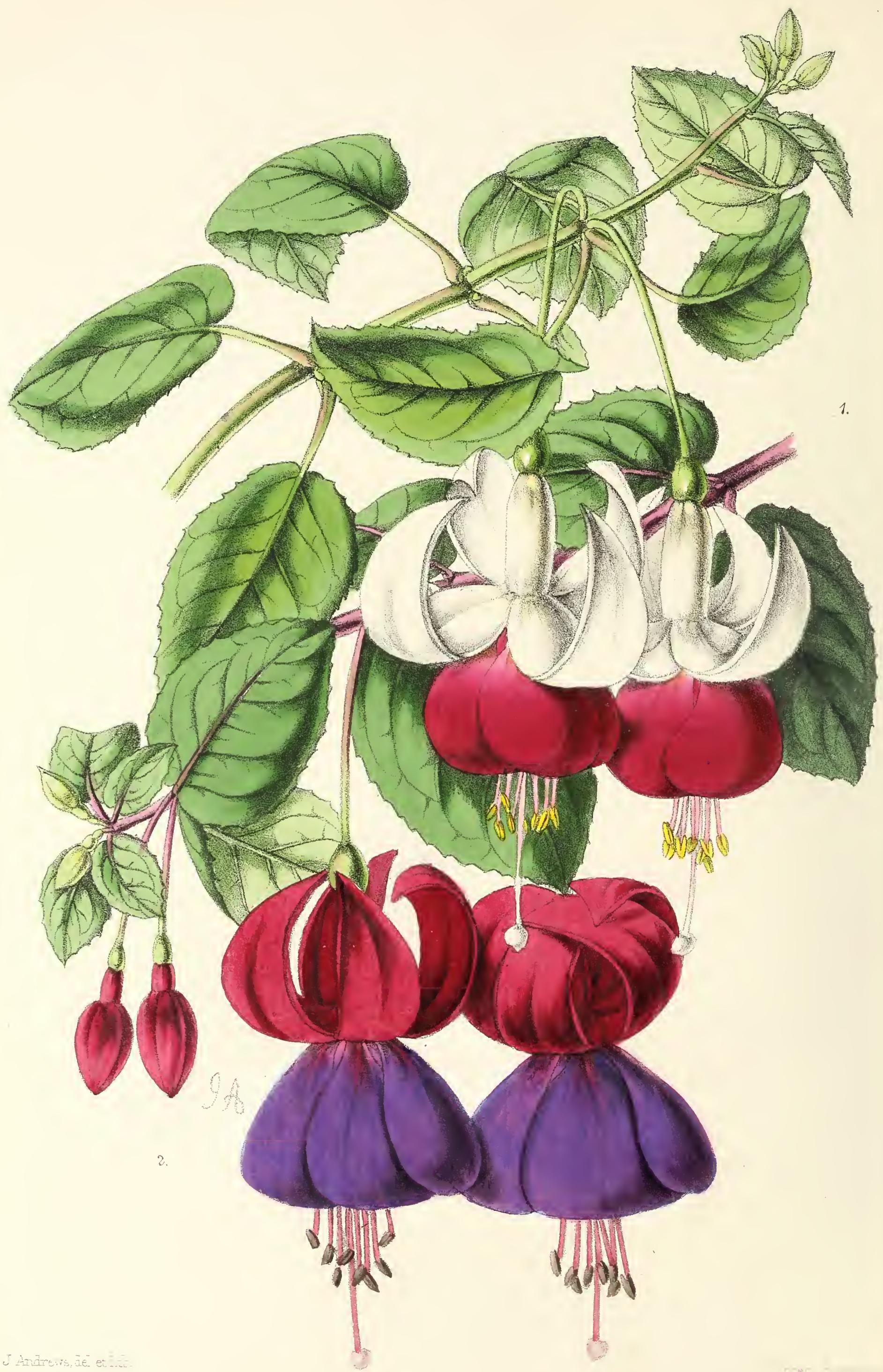


PLATE 82.

FUCHSIAS BIANCA AND VOLUNTEER.

Fuchsia hybrida, var.

There are few flowers which more strikingly exemplify the changes which from time to time are produced by care and cultivation, and indeed we may say sometimes by what seems mere chance, than the Fuchsia, whose slender and drooping branches, and graceful and elegant blooms, have combined to make it a general favourite; for, although perhaps not grown so extensively in collections as some florists' flowers, there are few greenhouses in which some of the many varieties are not cultivated with success.

Formerly only the dark varieties were known; but a sport, which we believe occurred with Mr. Cripps, of Tunbridge Wells, many years ago, produced in *Venus Victrix*, the parent of the varieties with white sepals and tube. In the meantime the dark ones were gradually assuming the Turk's-cap form, which they now possess. Again, some few years ago, white corollas made their appearance; and latterly we have had introduced some double ones, in which the corolla, instead of being simple, is double. Advance in size has also been progressive, and the substance of the flower greatly increased, so that now little is left to be desired; and considerable difficulty will be experienced in surpassing either the varieties now figured, or those lately sent out, especially *Minnie Banks*, which, taken altogether, may be regarded as the finest of all the white-sepalled varieties.

We are fortunate in being close neighbours to the gentleman to whom the fuchsia-loving world is indebted more than any one else, for the great improvement which has taken place in this flower, Edward Banks, Esq., of Sholden Lodge; and it may give some idea of the difficulty of raising new varieties, when we

say that he grows every year from four to five thousand seedlings, of which rarely more than eight or ten are reserved for the notice of the public: nor is he contented with even these the first year, as each variety is proved a second year before it is sent out, and thus every pains is taken to prevent disappointment.

For many years Mr. Banks's seedlings have passed into the hands of Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Co., the well-known nurserymen of Wellington Road, St. John's Wood, London. Besides the two now figured, they purpose this season sending out *Edith*, *Reine Blanche*, *Marginata*, *Signora*, *The Lord War-den*, *Hermine*, *Mars*, and *Mentor*, several of these being white-sepaled varieties. To our kind friend Mr. Andrew Henderson we are indebted for the following list of, according to his estimation, the best varieties grown:—

Antagonist; white tube and sepals; scarlet corolla.
Annie; white tube and sepals; rose-coloured corolla.
Black Prince; tube and sepals rich dark-scarlet; corolla dark-purple.
Comet; scarlet tube and sepals: fine variety.
Count Cavour; large, open, mauve-coloured corolla.
Lord Elcho; scarlet sepals; violet-blue corolla.
Fairest of the Fair; sepals and tube white; rich violet corolla.
Garibaldi; light-scarlet sepals; violet-black corolla.

Guiding Star; white sepals; corolla velvet-purple.
La Crinoline; crimson sepals; violet-blue corolla.
Lord Macaulay; broad scarlet sepals; deep-violet corolla.
Prince Impérial; scarlet sepals; corolla violet.
Perseverance; salmon sepals; rosy-lilac corolla.
Star of the Night; rich carmine sepals; corolla violet-purple.
Schiller; sepals white; corolla rich deep plum.
Souvenir de Chiswick; rosy-carmine sepals; violet-coloured corolla.

Of the two varieties figured in our Plate, *Bianca* (fig. 1) has a glossy tube; spreading, white, recurved sepals; corolla rich lake-crimson; medium habit of growth. *Volunteer* (fig. 2) has a short tube; bright, light, carmine-red sepals, much recurved; corolla large, parachute form, of a lavender-blue tint, suffused with violet: a distinct fine flower.



PLATE 83.

NEW FANCY PELARGONIUMS.

Pelargonium hybridum, var.

In a late number, when speaking of the classes into which the Pelargonium had been arranged by florists, we alluded to what are called Fancies as one of them. Why they should have been so designated it is difficult to say, but they constitute a very distinct class, and add considerably to the variety of the home-stage and the exhibition-table.

There is something even in the growth and foliage of this class which at once marks them as distinct. They are much more compact, the leaves much smaller, and, we may add, they are more delicate in constitution than the show and spotted kinds, thriving better in a warmer house, and being impatient of damp, both at the foliage and at the roots, hence it becomes necessary to be particular not to overpot them; abundant drainage should be given, and a compost of a lighter and more porous character should be used than that given to the show varieties. During the dark winter months of November, December, and January, water should be rather sparingly applied. Attention to these rules will enable those who desire to grow a few amongst their other kinds to overcome any difficulties attendant on their growth.

Like all other florists' flowers, there has been a gradual progress towards perfection in them, in colour, size, and substance, for some years past, and those who remember the varieties exhibited a few years ago, and compare them with the two beautiful kinds now figured, will at once perceive this; and although it may be some time before we are enabled to see them exhibited in such size as the older varieties, yet we are confident that they will ultimately replace many of those now esteemed as favourite flowers.

Both *Undine* and *Emperor of Morocco* were exhibited by Mr. Charles Turner, of Slough, by whom they were raised, at the June show of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park, and were then awarded certificates.

Undine (fig. 1) is a large flower, of a beautiful rosy-lake colour, darker in the centre of the two upper petals, the throat pure white, and all the petals margined with an even edge of white; the substance of the flower is good, and the habit strong, so that we have little doubt of its being, as described by its raiser, a fine flower. *Emperor of Morocco* (fig. 2) forms a fine contrast, the colour being of an intense rich mulberry, the lower petals being lighter towards the edge, and of a rich rose-colour, all being evenly margined with rosy-lilac; in this flower also we have substance, a quality so much valued by those who grow for exhibition. In fine, two more beautiful varieties were never presented to the view of the amateur, than those now so beautifully portrayed by Mr. Andrews.

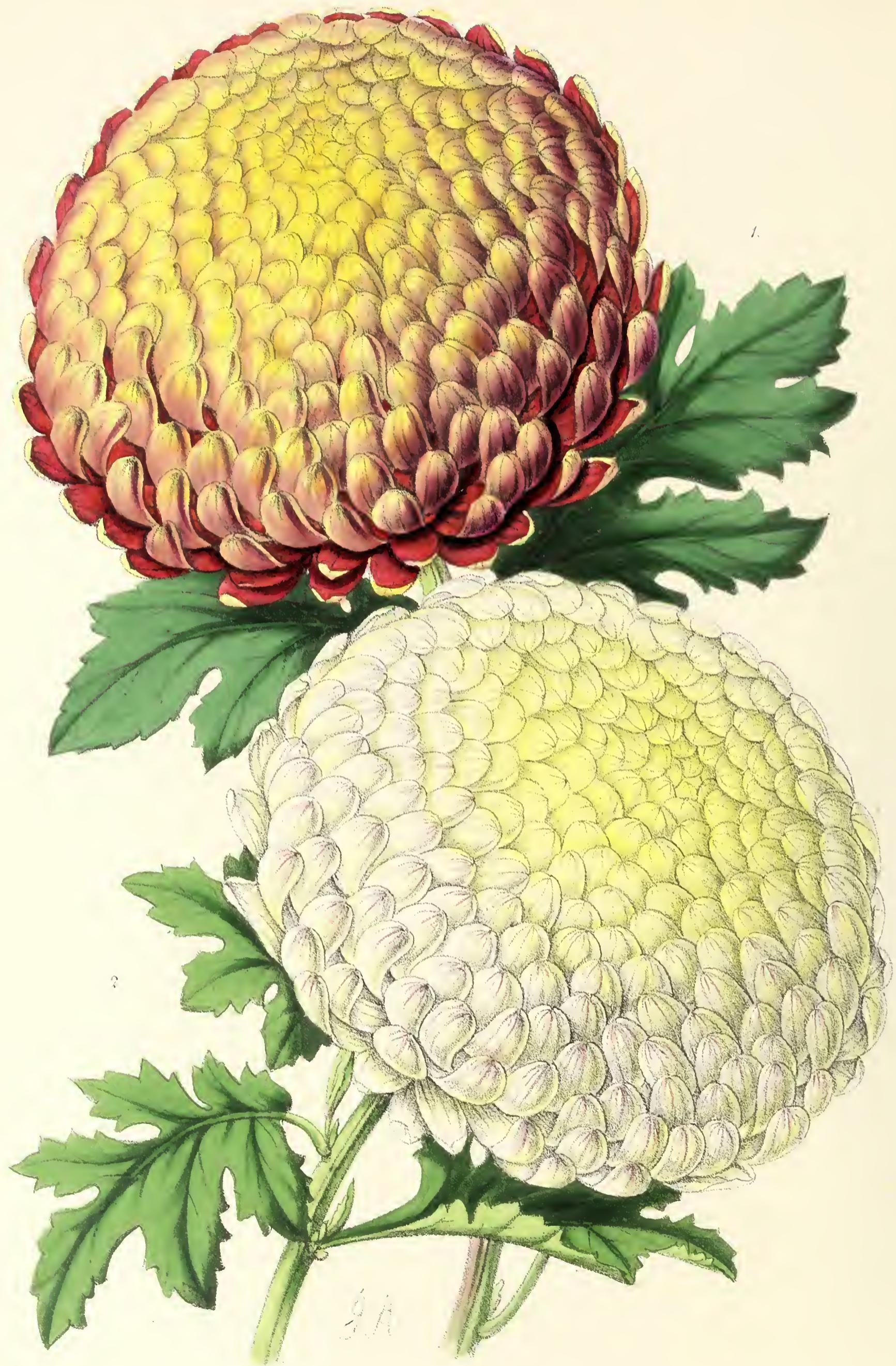


PLATE 84.

VARIETIES OF LARGE-FLOWERING CHRYSANTHEMUM.

Chrysanthemum sinense.*

The season of the year at which it flowers, the ease with which it is cultivated, and the permanence of its bloom,—whether on the plant or as cut flowers,—have all combined to render the *Chrysanthemum* one of the most generally grown and admired of florists' flowers, for to such a rank, owing to the care which has been bestowed on it for some years, it now justly lays claim.

In the dreary month of November, when, some few years ago, the very last thing that would have been thought of was a flower-show, there are now many opportunities of witnessing as pretty a display, of both growing plants and cut blooms, as at any season of the year (when one flower has to be depended on), not only at the Royal Horticultural Society and the Crystal Palace, but at Kennington and Hackney, and other suburban places where exhibitions are held; nay, in the very heart of the great Metropolis, the frequenter of its most crowded thoroughfare has only to turn out of Fleet Street into those dreary regions sacred to the law, to find, under the fostering care of Messrs. Broome and Dale, of the Middle and Inner Temple Gardens, a collection in full vigour both of health and bloom; while the winter gardens of Mr. Salter of Hammersmith, and Mr. Bird of Stoke Newington, the largest growers of them in England, afford a real treat to those who are desirous of not only seeing old established favourites, but novelties also.

It is to the former of these two gentlemen, Mr. Salter, formerly of Versailles, but now of Hammersmith, that we are in-

* Mr. Beaton, in 'Cottage Garden Dictionary,' so places it: others refer it to *Pyrethrum*.

debted for the far larger number of new varieties, as he not only raises seedlings himself, but introduces those which are produced by other growers, especially Mr. Smith,* of Guernsey, whose flowers have reached a high state of excellence, and two of whose most recent additions to the incurved class of large-flowering *Chrysanthemums*, Mr. Andrews has placed together in plate.

Sparkler (Smith), fig. 1, is a fine well-incurved flower, of medium size, colour of a rich Indian red, the golden-yellow backs of the petals giving it a very beautiful appearance. It was commended by the Floral Committee, and although not so large a flower as *General Slade*, we question whether it will not prove to be one more suited to the prevailing taste. *Carissima* (Smith), fig. 2, is a flower of first-rate properties, and as such received a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society. The petals are broad and beautifully incurved, the colour a sulphury-white with lilac tint at the edges, and streaked on the back of the petals with the same colour. Mr. Salter has also some other fine varieties to distribute in the spring, amongst which will be found *General Slade*, just mentioned, *Duchess of Wellington*, *Dr. Brock*, *Lord Ranelagh*, *Edith Dombrain*, and *Ion*.

A flower so easily grown as the *Chrysanthemum*, hardly needs any remark as to culture, but we may mention that the gardener of our friend and neighbour, E. Banks, Esq., of Sholden Lodge, grows them very compactly by placing three plants in an eight- or ten-inch pot, and by supplying them liberally with guano-water very fair-sized blooms, and in considerable quantities, are obtained; to those who do not grow for exhibition, it seems an admirable plan.

* Mr. Smith is gardener to General Slade, the Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey.



PLATE 85.

VARIETIES OF POMPONE CHRYSANTHEMUM.

Chrysanthemum sinense, vars.

It could hardly have been foreseen, when Mr. Fortune introduced his little "Chusan Daisy," that it would be the parent of so numerous and beautiful a progeny as the varieties of "Pompone;" and it is only another instance to be added to those very numerous ones already existing, of what the skill, perseverance, and judgment of the Florists have effected.

The dwarfer and more compact character of the growth of this class of Chrysanthemums has rendered them greater favourites even than the larger varieties; but it has at the same time caused them to be the subjects of various styles of training, which are about as ornamental as the Yews and Hollies cut into various shapes, which we sometimes see in old-fashioned gardens. Permitting themselves to be twisted and turned in every direction, they have been trained as pyramids, balloons, or with flat tops, like a table, until the character of the flower has been entirely lost. A better state of things has been inaugurated during the past season, the Royal Horticultural Society having offered prizes for the most naturally grown plants; and although, as in the case of all flowers intended for exhibition, a certain amount of training is necessary, yet the character of the flower has been preserved.

Their culture is excessively easy, as they strike readily; and, with a little care, grow very rapidly. We consider that the better plan is, instead of shifting them some three or four times during their period of growth, to place them at once from the cutting-pot into the pots in which they are intended to bloom,—about eleven inches in diameter. The compost used should be moderately rich, but at the same time strong, and rather retentive of moisture, drought being very injurious to them; they

may be treated, however, as soon as the flower-buds make their appearance, to liberal supplies of guano-water, or any good liquid manure. The plan to which we alluded last month, of placing three cuttings in a pot, answers admirably for this class, and saves a great deal of trouble in stopping. If grown singly, they will require to be shortened frequently, in order to induce more compactness of growth,—the last stopping not to be made later than the beginning of August. In order to preserve them in beauty for a more lengthened period, it is desirable to place them in a house for blooming,—we have used a tiffany one for this purpose, with favourable results.

The varieties now figured were exhibited by Mr. John Salter, of the Versailles Nursery, Hammersmith, and will form, we think, desirable additions to the class; nor can we notice them without drawing attention to the extreme care and minuteness of detail which Mr. Andrews has bestowed on our figures. They are, —*Acis* (fig. 1), a medium-sized flower, of a rich, sulphur-yellow, slightly tinged with orange. *Capella* (fig. 2), beautiful reddish-brown, very compact in its habit, and very free blooming; and *Lucinda* (fig. 3), a large-sized flower, mottled lilac; the edges of the petals being white, it has quite the appearance of an edged flower. These, with some other varieties, will appear in the list of novelties to be sent out by Mr. Salter in May next.



PLATE 86.

INDIAN CRESS "ECLIPSE."

Tropæolum Lobbianum, var.

The modern style of gardening has led to the introduction and extended use of many flowers which a few years ago we should hardly have considered ever likely to occupy a prominent position in the flower-garden: amongst these are the varieties of *Tropæolum* or Indian Cress, the species called *Lobbianum* having afforded three or four distinct *strains*, the dwarf varieties of which are exceedingly useful for long borders, or indeed for beds, as the frequenters of the Crystal Palace and Royal Horticultural Society's gardens last summer must have witnessed.

The variety which we have now the pleasure of placing before our friends is one of an exceedingly interesting character, and was raised by that veteran florist, Richard Headly, Esq., of Stapleford, near Cambridge, one who has for many years held a very high position as a raiser of seedling florists' flowers; many of his Auriculas, Carnations, Picotees, and Tulips, ranking amongst the very best of their race, and we believe in the present instance he has raised another which will still further add to his fame as a skilful and judicious hybridizer. We are indebted to him for the following information:—" *Eclipse* was raised from *Elegans*, fertilized by pollen from *Brilliant*. I raised a large number of seedlings, but this flower was so superior to all the others, although many were fine, that I destroyed them, only retaining this, which was the ornament and pride of my garden last autumn, being more brilliant than the best scarlet Geraniums. The eye rested upon it as soon as you entered my garden.* As a bedding *Tropæolum*, it is far beyond all others; it is as dwarf in growth as any we have, and is a mass of bloom

* This we can certify to be always a blaze of brilliancy and beauty.

until destroyed by frost." The compactness of growth and abundance of bloom has been well shown by our artist, but even his able pencil cannot do full justice to the intense brilliancy of its colour. We have to add only that it has passed into the hands of Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, by whom it will be distributed to the public this spring.

The culture of this race of *Tropæolum* is very simple. They make very useful pot-plants for blooming in the conservatory or greenhouse in winter, and when used as bedding plants grow very rapidly; it will, where great nicety as to the height of the border is observed, be necessary to use the scissors in taking off superfluous leaves or shoots, but in such dwarf kinds as *Eclipse* this will be hardly necessary. Amongst other varieties useful for this purpose, are *Comte Cavour*, *Brilliant*, and *Impératrice Eugénie*. There are others also, but it will be better in purchasing to state for what particular purpose they are needed, and any respectable nurseryman will supply desirable sorts.



PLATE 87.

VARIETIES OF CINERARIA.

Cineraria hybrida, vars.

Amongst the earliest harbingers of the flower-season, enlivening the dreary and dark days of December and January, there are few flowers which are deservedly greater favourites or more generally grown than the *Cineraria*, while they form very valuable additions to the earlier flower-shows, especially to those spring meetings which are now encouraged by the Royal Horticultural and Royal Botanical Societies; those who wish them merely for decoration, without any reference to their properties as florists' flowers, can obtain a very nice supply of early blooming plants from seed, while those who are more particular as to these points, can propagate by offsets from year to year.

The *Cineraria* delights in a rich and open soil; we have used with considerable advantage a compost composed of equal parts of loam, leaf mould, and well rotted cow manure, with an addition of silver sand to keep it open. They grow very rapidly, and it will be necessary as the plants make roots and fill the pots to shift them into larger ones. They should be kept in a growing state, free from attacks of frost, or sharp cutting winds, and will, if thus treated, make large, handsome plants, with broad and luxuriant leaves, before they show their flower-stems; as these advance in height, they should, if large plants and a broad head of bloom are required, be tied out to slender stakes, which should be as little visible as possible; but for ordinary purposes this care will not be required. It should be borne in mind that there is no flower which suffers more from the attacks of green fly than this, and that therefore they should be carefully fumigated when there is the least sign of its appearance: the leaves too are easily damaged, either by too much heat, or by being bruised against other pots, and therefore care should be taken in these particulars.

The varieties which we now figure are *Miss Eyles* (fig. 1) and *Maid of Astolat* (fig. 2). The former of these has received several first-class certificates, and is a very desirable variety, being very dwarf and compact in habit, holding very large and broad flower-heads; the colour, a deep fine rose with white ring and rosy disk. *Maid of Astolat* is a larger and bolder-looking flower, white, carmine, purple edge, and rosy disk. Both are excellent in form, though *Miss Eyles* is the more perfect of the two. It has been impossible to represent more than a few *pips* of each sort, as the Plate would otherwise be too crowded, but both kinds are excessively free bloomers.



PLATE 88.

DAHLIA MRS. BUSH.

Dahlia superflua, var.

Although of late years many flowers have entered the lists to compete as autumnal beauties with the noble and brilliant Dahlia,—and although we are ourselves warm admirers of the Gladiolus, the Hollyhock, and the Aster, yet we cannot displace from her proud pre-eminence as the Queen of Autumn flowers this long-established favourite, one of the newest and best of the varieties of which we now figure under the name of *Mrs. Bush*; and no large garden (for they are hardly suited for small ones) should be considered complete without a collection of them, which can be obtained at a very moderate cost.

The Dahlia is one of those flowers which require good soil, and a liberal supply of manure; and, as the branches are succulent and easily broken, they should have as sheltered a situation as possible; they should be planted out as soon as danger from frost is over, the end of May or beginning of June, but even then it will be safer to have some large empty pots to turn over them at night. Abundance of room should be given, not less than five feet each way. Tying should be carefully attended to, first securing the plant to a central stake, with a broad piece of bast, and the side branches tied out to three or four stakes placed at equal distances from the central one,—superfluous branches should be thinned out, and when the plants have attained some considerable size, they should be well mulched with half-rotted stable manure, and, if the weather be dry and sultry, should be abundantly supplied with water. Where fine blooms are required, it will be necessary to disbud, that is, to pinch off some of the bloom-buds; some varieties require more of this than others, but it will be generally found that the catalogues distinguish those which require much or little disbudding. Where

they are grown for exhibition, various contrivances are used for shading, etc.

Great perfection has been attained in the shape and general contour of the Dahlia, and one has only to refer to the plates of some twenty years back, to see how great the progress has been; in fact, so great is it that it is only some novelty in colour that now commends itself to the taste of the floral world. This *Mrs. Bush* possesses; no flower of this soft peach hue has been obtained since Widnall's *Queen*, raised about 1838, which was very inferior in shape and size. *Mrs. Bush* is a full-sized flower, the plant growing from four to five feet high, and very robust; it was raised by Mr. Bush, of Bath, the raiser of *Robert Bruce*, and has been purchased by Mr. Turner, of Slough. It received a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society. Messrs. Turner, of Slough, and Keynes, of Salisbury, are the sources from whence the best Dahlias emanate, as they are not only raisers of seedlings themselves, but obtain those of other raisers. Mr. Turner's new flowers are, in addition to *Mrs. Bush*,—*Lord Derby* (Pope), *Chieftain* (Holmes), *Model* (Perry), *Delicata* (Perry), *Una* (Turner), *Captain Harvey* (Turner), *Cygnets* (Turner), *Bob Ridley* (Turner), and *Blondin* (Turner). Mr. Keynes's are,—*Black Prince* (Keynes), *Countess of Portsmouth* (Rawlings), *Donald Beaton* (Dodds), *Empress of India* (Rawlings), *Goldfinch* (Keynes), *Imperial* (Keynes), *John Harrison* (Harrison), *Lady Elcho* (Dodds), *Maria Carter* (Keynes), *Minnie Dodds* (Dodds), *Maid of Bath* (Hooper), *Oscar* (Addis), *Royal Purple* (Keynes), *Sir J. Outram* (Rawlings).



PLATE 89.

VARIETIES OF VERBENA.

Verbena hybrida, vars.

Few flowers occupy so prominent a position in the modern style of gardening as the Verbena, the great variety of colour, the dwarf yet free habit of growth, and the ease with which it is multiplied, all conducing to its universal adoption for the purpose of bedding and ribboning; while the same properties cause it to find a home in most of the smaller gardens of those who exhibit any taste for flowers. But an observer will hardly fail to notice that, for this purpose, those varieties are used which are either selfs, that is, all of one shade of colour, or else those which are shaded with deeper hues of the same tint; for flowers with the centre, of a different colour to the rest of the petal make a contrast which effectually mars the intention of the designer, who must be perfectly *au fait* at the arrangement of colours.

But Verbenas are grown for other purposes: they make very effective pot-plants; and the blooms, when cut, form a pretty variety in the various exhibitions of flowers both in the metropolis and the country. Here what are called *eyed* flowers are not only useful, but exceedingly ornamental; and there is no person who has been more successful in raising this kind of flower than our friend Mr. Perry, of The Cedars, Castle Bromwich, near Birmingham. Possessed with an ardent love for flowers, and himself a most successful exhibitor, he has carried on his hybridizing so carefully that his flowers have attained a large size and great variety in colour, so that he rarely meets with a competitor who can distance him.

To grow Verbenas for exhibition, it is necessary to plant them out in a frame or pit, in some nice light and rich soil; to peg them down as they make growth, and to carefully fumigate

from time to time, as they are very subject to the attack of thrip and greenfly. The lights should be kept off in all fine weather but put on during rain, giving, however, air at the same time. In this state they will flourish very well, and blooms can always be depended upon. This is not the case when grown in the open air, as one shower of rain will completely destroy the hopes of an exhibitor.

The varieties now figured are, *Thackeray* (fig. 1), a shaded rosy purple, with large white eye and broad purple ring round the eye, very distinct and showy; *Decorator* (fig. 2), a brilliant crimson with white eye, a fine blossom, and good in most points; and *Blue Beauty*, (fig. 3) a very deep blue, several shades deeper than *Mrs. Moore*, with large pure white eye, and very beautiful. They are in the hands of Mr. W. Bull, of Chelsea, who proposes letting them out this spring, together with *Annihilator*, *Countess of Bradford*, *Countess of Aylesford*, *Cheerful*, *Loveliness*, *Queen of Prussia*, *Raphael*, *Spark*, *The Palace*, and *Unique*, all these being of Mr. Perry's raising.

While writing on new Verbenas, we cannot forbear alluding to another variety, *Foxhunter*, a magnificent scarlet flower, raised by our friend Mr. Millar, of Upway, near Dorchester, which all regard as the finest Verbena of the year, and which Mr. Low, of Clapton, intends introducing to the public next May.



PLATE 90.

VARIETIES OF SHRUBBY SLIPPERWORT.

Calceolaria hybrida, vars.

In the November number of last year we figured (Plate 76) two Calceolarias of the same character as the present ones, save that they were self-coloured flowers, and we then made a promise (which we now redeem) of, at an early opportunity, giving figures of some of the spotted varieties raised by Mr. Burley, who has acquired a well-merited reputation for the skill and success with which he has followed out the cultivation of this attractive class of flowers; and as, with most hybridizers, he is making continual progress, we may be prepared for seeing some of the splendid markings of the herbaceous or annual kinds, which have proved so difficult to keep, on these hardier shrubby varieties.

There are no plants of easier growth than these Calceolarias; and certainly their showy character makes them desirable accessions to the greenhouse or conservatory, especially during that portion of the year when there is somewhat of a difficulty in making them look gay, viz. during the months of August and September. Mr. Burley informs us that the soil he uses is of a rich open character, about equal portions of good yellow loam, leaf-mould, and well-rotted manure, with a fair admixture of silver-sand. The cooler they are kept, too, he says, the better, provided that they are kept free of frost. As the sun attains power they should be frequently syringed and shaded from the influence of its mid-day rays; and, above all, he urges the necessity of steadily making war upon the greenfly, which very soon injures its succulent foliage. He says, "Whenever you see one, fumigate; my plan is to do so on two or three successive nights, as I believe this is more effectual than giving a very strong dose at once."

The varieties now figured are to be let out during the present spring, amongst some other excellent ones, which Mr. Burley has been fortunate in raising. *Monarch* (fig. 1) is a rich orange-coloured flower, with crimson blotches rather than spots, the throat being a lighter shade of the same colour as the spots: it is a flower of large size and excellent shape. *Model* (fig. 2) is a bright primrose, pitted all over with reddish spots, and was one of the six which received the silver-gilt medal at the Royal Botanic Society's Exhibition in the Regent's Park last year. It is, perhaps, not so attractive as the former flower, but its habit is equally good, and it will form a pretty addition to this favourite tribe.



PLATE 91.

DOUBLE-FLOWERED BEAUTIFUL CLARKIA.

Clarkia pulchella, flore pleno.

However much Botanists may admire single flowers, and consider double varieties as interfering with the simplicity of nature, there can be but very little question that to the flower-growing and flower-loving public the latter have greater charms; and when they have been originated, the single kinds very soon fall into the background; the *Double Zinnia* will, ere long, completely drive out, we imagine, its single congener; and so, should the *Double Clarkia*, which we now figure, become permanently fixed, the other varieties of *pulchella* will be little cared for.

Our present figure was drawn by Mr. Andrews from the plant as it was grown by the Messrs. Carter, of Holborn, at their Nursery, Forest Hill; it was originated there, about eight years ago, and their object has been to *fix* the double character which it then presented. It sometimes happens that a flower which promises a move in that direction afterwards disappoints its owner, and, with that constant tendency to deteriorate or, if it is so willed, of running back to its original type, which characterizes all garden flowers, again becomes a single flower; it was not, therefore, until there seemed every probability of its maintaining its character, that they ventured on exhibiting it; this they did at the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society in last June, when it was awarded a first-class certificate, and is thus described in their Journal of Proceedings:—"This was a handsome variety of the deep rosy colour of the better forms of this well-known species, but having three or four whorls of petals developed as to form a tolerable full double flower. It was a very showy plant and was awarded a first-class certificate"—a proof of the estimation

in which it was held, as annuals rarely receive any higher award than a label of commendation.

There is no more difficulty in the cultivation of this double variety of *Clarkia* than in that of the single ones ; and there is hardly any race of annuals more easy of culture than they are ; they will thrive in any tolerably good garden soil, and, if the plants are thinned out so as to leave abundance of room for growth, they will proportionably reward the care bestowed on them. They are effective and ornamental plants ; and we doubt not the variety now figured will prove its claim to be so considered during the coming season.



PLATE 92.

VARIETIES OF DOUBLE ZINNIA.

Zinnia elegans, flore pleno.

There has not been an annual introduced for many years into this country which has received such universal recognition, as an excellent and useful addition to our gardens, as the Double Zinnia; and, although we published a plate of them in our last volume (Plate 33), we make no apology for bringing before our subscribers another group from the pencil of Mr. Andrews, the opportunity of so doing having been afforded us by the kindness of the eminent London seedsmen, Messrs. Carter & Co. of Holborn.

Our reason for so doing is, that there are evidently two distinct strains of them in the country, and one, in our opinion, very much inferior to the other in every quality; in one the flower is comparatively shallow, partaking more of the shape of the old single Zinnia, without much regularity in the disposition of the petals; in the other it is of very great depth, exceeding, in some cases, three inches (as in some specimens which we saw in the garden of our friend and neighbour, Mr. Edward Banks, of Sholden*), the petals regularly reflexing, somewhat in the manner of some of the newly-introduced Chrysanthemum-flowered Asters, and disposed very regularly and closely, so as to give the appearance of a thoroughly double flower. It is the latter variety which we have figured; and, although at present absolute certainty cannot be obtained as to every individual seed coming true to character, yet, as some seedsmen advertise them as doing so in the ratio of 80 and 90 per cent., and as the gentleman who is styled the "Sardinian Correspondent" of Messrs. Barr & Sugden announces twenty-four varieties, we have very little doubt but that in a year or

* This seed was obtained from Mr. W. Thompson, of Ipswich.

two we shall be as certain of the seed as we are now of the varieties of German and French Asters.

The cultivation of the Double Zinnias differs but little, if at all, from that of the single varieties; the seed should be sown, at the latter end of March or early in April, in either a hot-bed or stove, in pans; the soil used should be light and friable, and made quite smooth before sowing. When sown, the seeds should be covered lightly with soil, and gently syringed; as soon as they are above ground, let them be watered gently, and, when they are strong enough, transplanted into small pots, either placing three round the edge or else potting singly into large sixties; when all danger of frost is over, they may be planted out: the soil should be rich and friable, although any good garden soil will answer. They will require no further attention, save to watch against the depredations of snails and slugs, and they will continue to bloom profusely all the summer, the individual blooms remaining a very long time on the plant, as we have known them to continue in perfection for nearly three weeks; they will, as they are strong-growing, be benefited by the application of a little liquid manure, applied occasionally during the blooming period.



PLATE 93.

NEW STARRED CONVOLVULUS.

Convolvulus cantabricus, stellatus novus.

The requirements of modern gardening are of a very exacting character. Not only must conservatories and parterres look gay, or forced flowers during the dull and wintry months add their beauty to the drawing-room or boudoir, but hanging baskets and vases must be filled with suitable plants, which shall not merely fill them, but trail over their sides, and so add elegance to their appearance, the introduction of the hanging baskets in the Crystal Palace having led to their very general adoption.

The plant which we now figure, is one we think likely to be useful for this purpose. Last season, a Blue Convolvulus (*mauritanicus*) was introduced by Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Son, of the Wellington Road Nursery, and figured by them in their 'Illustrated Bouquet'; and we imagine that the present will be a fitting adjunct to it, as it possesses the same free flowering properties and the same trailing habit. It has been introduced by Messrs. Barr and Sugden, of King Street, Covent Garden, who received it from the gentleman who has been known for some time as the "Sardinian Correspondent" of some of the London seedsmen, (albeit, since the cession of Savoy and Nice to France, he is now a French correspondent); living in the neighbourhood of Nice, in a climate admirably adapted for the saving of seed, he grows annuals very extensively, and, having had long experience in horticulture, he is continually hybridizing, and has thus obtained some valuable varieties.

There are few persons, who have ever grown annuals, who have not grown some of the many varieties of Convolvulus; (one of the easiest of culture of the vast number of seeds usually presented to the consideration of the flower-loving public every year); and we have only to say of this new variety, that it is

quite as easy of cultivation as any of the older sorts. It will be noticed, that its chief peculiarity is the very distinct double star which the white markings form in the flowers; and when the plant is large and covered with bloom, we do not doubt it will make a pleasing-addition to the hanging-basket, either in the verandah or conservatory. Mr. Andrews has represented it in such a position, in order to show the charming effect that will be produced by it when so used; but its raiser informed us that he had also grown it as an out-door annual for ribboning, and that it is very effective in such situations.



PLATE 94.

VARIETIES OF HYBRID PENSTEMON.

Penstemon hybridum, vars.

The class of flowers, of which we now figure two very beautiful examples, is one which we do not think has received the amount of attention that it deserves; and, as the varieties have been greatly improved of late years, we shall be glad if our bringing them before our subscribers may tend to their increased cultivation, especially as they are not by any means difficult of cultivation, and are easily propagated; two desirable properties in an age busy in horticulture, as well as in everything else.

The varieties which we now figure* come, as many of our novelties in florists' flowers do, from over the border, and were raised by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Edinburgh, and Stanstead Park, Forest Hill; and form two of a collection they are bringing out this season: others, in the same set, are *Alexander Cramb*, *Azurea elegans*, *Baroness Sempill*, *Donald Beaton*, *Firefly*, *Monarch*, *Mrs. Brooks*, *Mrs. Pollock*, *Miss Couslin*, *Peter Barr*, *Robert Dewar*, *Scarlet Gem*, and *W. P. Laird*.

We are hopeful that not only increased attention may be given to them, but that hybridizers may have now an opportunity of adding considerably to their beauty, as two new species of Penstemon have been introduced during the last season, by Messrs. Low and Son, of Clapton. They are from California; one, somewhat sweet-scented and yellow, called *Lobbianus*;

* Fig. 1. DR. HOGG: bright glowing scarlet, throat pure white, large and well expanded, large gloxinia-like flowers; warranted by the raisers as the best flower in its class.

Fig. 2. VIOLACEA: superb rich dark violet, with white throat, very clear and distinct.

and the other *spectabilis*.* From their habitat, they are both likely to be hardy; and we should think, that it would be well worth the consideration of those interested in the raising of seedlings, whether the infusion of this new blood would not very materially improve the older varieties; just as Mr. Beaton considers the *Mimulus cupreus*, figured by us (Plate 70), may introduce a great improvement into that flower.

As an herbaceous plant, the Pentstemon is easily propagated, either by division of the roots or by cuttings; the former is the easier method, and may be done at any time in the early part of the spring; but the best and most shapely plants are to be obtained from cuttings, which should be taken off in February or March, and stuck in gentle heat, potted off as soon as rooted, and then gradually brought into a cooler atmosphere. They may be planted out in May in any ordinary garden soil, to which a liberal quantity of well-rotted manure has been added, and will bloom continuously during the summer; in a word, their cultivation is very similar to that of the Phlox, and their flowers are more permanent than in that beautiful class.

* Figured in Bot. Mag., t. 5250.



PLATE 95.

CAMELLIA MASTER* ROSEA.

Camellia Japonica, var.

Who does not admire the Camellia? Has any one ever seen the snow-white blossoms of some varieties, the brilliant colours and symmetrical form of others, and the glossy foliage of the plants, and not said, "How beautiful"? Who would think a bouquet, when they are in bloom, complete without one? And if they needed any special interest, shall we, as loyal subjects, readily forget that a white Camellia formed the centre of that last tribute of affection which our Royal Mistress sent to be laid on the coffin of her husband?—no mere "trapping of woe," but the expression of sincere and devoted love.

In a visit we paid last autumn to Angers, in France, we visited, amongst other places, the Nursery of M. Cachet, where Camellias are grown in greater perfection than it has ever been our lot to witness; of course great advantages of climate and situation were enjoyed by him, but the beauty and health of his plants clearly showed that skill and intelligence had also been brought to bear. Amongst the many varieties cultivated by him, that which he considered in every respect the most desirable is the one we now figure, *Master Rosea*; a very large portion of his stock of it was purchased by our friend and fellow-traveller, Mr. John Standish, of Bagshot, and from a bloom of one of these plants a drawing was made by Mr. Andrews; it is a large, beautifully-shaped flower, with well-rounded petals, and very full; the petals stiff and not reflexing; the colour a beautiful veined rose; the habit of the plant good; foliage large, and of a rich glossy-green, and indeed it possesses in every respect the properties of a first-rate Camellia; under this name, at any rate,

* So written in the Angers Catalogues. *Maester* is, however, suggested as the right orthography.

it is, we believe, unknown to English growers, as on inquiry from some of the largest Camellia-growers, we could not find that they had any acquaintance with it, but we saw in a collection exhibited by Mr. William Paul, of the Nurseries, Waltham Cross, at a late Meeting of the Floral Committee, a variety called *Elatior*, which seems to approach very near to it.

The cultivation of the Camellia is much more simple than is generally supposed: it delights in a mixture of good turfy loam and peat, and will even bear a few degrees of frost without injury; when the plants have bloomed, it will be better (if such a convenience is at hand), to place them in a moist stove, where they can be started into growth and well syringed, and after this they must be gradually hardened off until they can bear the open air, when they may be placed out of doors in a shady place, but not under the dip of trees, and on tiles or slates, to prevent the entrance of worms into the pot; when they are brought into the house in the autumn, care should be taken that they do not suffer from either excess or lack of moisture, as, although they will not show it by drooping, as some flowers, yet the loss of the flower-buds will ultimately ensue, and this of course every grower would desire to avoid.

Besides the above beautiful variety, we can confidently recommend, *Princesse Bacciochi*, striped; *Montaroni*, white; *imbri-cata*, crimson; *fimbriata*, white, beautifully fringed; *Sacco Vera*, veined rese; *Sarah Frost*, the most beautifully shaped Camellia grown; *Duchesse de Berri*, splendid white; and *Queen of Beauties*; striped quite new.



$\frac{1}{4}$ Natural Size.

J. Andrews, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

PLATE 96.

VERSCHAEFFELT'S COLEUS.

Coleus Verschaeffeltii.

We think that we shall be doing good service to our subscribers if from time to time we figure, not merely such plants as are likely to be favourites, as improvements in the many existing varieties of florist's and garden flowers, but also such as either have been passed by, owing to some supposed difficulty of culture which has been overcome, or such as, from the beauty of their foliage, are likely to form ornamental plants for the decoration of the conservatory or the flower-garden. We have in the former class, already figured, *Disa grandiflora* and *Agapanthus Manglesii*, and we now in the latter class bring *Coleus Verschaeffeltii* before our friends.

This species of *Coleus*, which bears the name of M. Verschaeffelt, the eminent Belgian Nurseryman, was introduced to this country by Mr. William Bull, of King's Road, Chelsea, and was largely exhibited by him during last season at the various horticultural exhibitions in the metropolis, where it attracted a considerable degree of attention; and it strikes us as being a very manageable plant, capable of being grown to a large size for indoor decoration, and probably in warm situations, adding a pleasing change to the ribbon system of gardening; brighter in colour than *Perilla Nankinensis*, which has been so extensively used during the past few years, it will probably supplant that, when it comes to be more extensively known and reduced in price, and the ease with which it is cultivated will soon effect this.*

* In stating this, we are aware there are some authorities against us, but it was used in this way very extensively by M. Verschaeffelt last summer in Belgium, and should we have anything of a fine season it will be well tested, as the Royal Horticultural Society is about to try it.

Coleus Verschaeffeltii is a native of Java, and therefore requires, during the winter, a warm greenhouse; during the summer it will succeed under almost any treatment. The foliage is elegant in shape, and on the young plants deep crimson margined with bright green, but as the plants attain age and size the green passes away, and the entire leaf is a rich glowing crimson; in this condition they are very beautiful, having a velvety appearance, and from the ease with which it is grown we have no doubt it will be a favourite with those who value decorative plants. The drawing is about one-fourth of the natural size, but even this will be probably beneath the real size of it, as, when more favourably grown, they will attain even larger dimensions.



PLATE 97.

AMARYLLIS UNIQUE.

Amaryllis hybrida, var.*

The whole tribe of Amaryllids, including *Hippeastrum*, *Nerine*, *Vallotta*, *Brunsvigia*, etc., contains flowering bulbs of great beauty: some of them, as *A. Belladonna*, being perfectly hardy; others, as *Vallotta purpurea* (a charming and most easily-grown species), belonging to the greenhouse; while others, as the one now figured, although sometimes called Stove Amaryllids, succeed best, as we were informed by Mr. B. S. Williams, the raiser of *Amaryllis Unique*, in an intermediate house. They are very largely used in Paris for the decoration of houses in spring; when at Messrs. Truffauts', of Versailles, in October last, we saw large pits, containing several thousand bulbs, in as many as three hundred varieties.

No one has, perhaps, been more successful in the treatment of Cape bulbs than Mr. Charles Leach, King's Road, Clapham; when visiting him during the present month, we saw some magnificent specimens of this tribe in the height of vigour. *Brunsvigia Josephinæ*, which used to be considered an impossible plant, had immense leaves upon it, and promised well for bloom. This splendid species he flowers in the open air in summer, where it makes a most magnificent appearance; and he informed us that he had not given to any of this tribe so much heat as has been ordinarily adopted, only giving them a little when first showing flower, or leaf, and soon afterwards removing them to the greenhouse. The soil in which they best succeed is one composed of light sandy loam, leaf-mould, and rotted manure, in nearly equal quantities.

Amaryllis Unique was exhibited by Mr. B. S. Williams, of Paradise Nursery, Seven Sisters Road, Holloway, at the Hyacinth and Camellia Show of the Royal Horticultural Society,

* Described by the raiser as a seedling of *A. Akermannii pulcherrima*.

on the 19th March, when it was awarded a first-class certificate by the Floral Sub-Committee, for its general merits. It will be seen at once to be a very handsome variety of extra fine form, the petals being very broad, and preventing it from having that ragged and open appearance that those exhibited generally have. The colour is a deep, brilliant scarlet, the centre of the petals being shaded with black, and the throat having white markings. Altogether it is a very lovely variety, and well deserving the award which it received.

We have been favoured by Mr. Williams with the following notes:—"The evergreen sections require to be kept continually growing, and regularly watering throughout the season, namely, *Amaryllis aulica*, *Amaryllis superba*, *longifolia*, and *reticulata*; the rest, I believe, are better for a season of rest. First, I suppose to start by having good dry bulbs fit for flowering: they should be placed in a nice light part of the house, and gradually begin with water, say, a little every two or three days, until the leaf and flower begin to appear; after that the water should increase with the growth of the plant; but as soon as the spike is about six inches long water should be given very liberally, as the perfection of the flower entirely depends upon that. After the plants have done flowering they should be re-potted (if required) and have a more moist heat, to mature the bulbs for another season. After that, allow them to gradually go off to rest by withholding water from them. I had almost forgotten to mention that after the bulbs are dried off they should be placed in some dry back part of a cool house—under the stage, or any similar place will do—until required for starting again. The soil I use for growing them is two parts of Epping loam, one ditto leaf-mould, one ditto rotten manure, with a good sprinkling of sand. In potting, the soil should be pressed firmly in the pots, leaving the bulb about half covered."



PLATE 98.

HYACINTH DUC DE MALAKOFF.

Hyacinthus orientalis, var.

The liberal prizes offered by the Royal Horticultural and Royal Botanic Societies for Spring flowers had the effect this year of bringing together a larger number of Hyacinths of first-rate character than the flower-loving public have ever had an opportunity of seeing before; while the large collections contributed by Mr. Cutbush, of Highgate, and Mr. W. Paul, of Cheshunt, contained all the new varieties which the skill of the Dutch florists (stimulated by the desire for novelty evidenced in the country) has lately brought into notice. Amongst these, there was no flower that received a larger share of praise than the one now figured, *Duc de Malakoff*.

One thing must have not a little surprised visitors, that the single varieties were exhibited in so much larger proportion than the double ones, and that they formed also by far the finer spikes of bloom; indeed, for exhibition purposes, they are the only ones on which dependence can be placed, and we think that private growers, who merely desire to ornament their conservatory or sitting-rooms, would find that they are much more reliable.

The culture of the Hyacinth for ordinary purposes is of the most simple character. When grown in pots, the soil used should be very rich, light, containing a large proportion of well-rotted manure; and when first planted, the pots should be plunged in sand, covering them about three inches; root-growth will be thus encouraged. When the shoot is about two inches long they should be taken out, and gradually exposed to the light, receiving a large quantity of water, and indeed, if great size is desired, supplied also with liquid manure. When grown for exhibition, a more liberal treatment still will be necessary.

Instead, however, of giving detailed directions for cultivation, which Mr. Cutbush himself has supplied to former numbers of this Magazine, we prefer adding short notes of some of those that most struck our fancy at Kensington. *Reine des Jacinthes* is a fine deep red, deeper than *Lina*, which is itself a very fine flower. *Pelissier* is another fine shaded flower of the same colour. *Macaulay* is another excellent red. *Madame Van der Hoop* is a lovely pure white, with large bells. The same may be said of *Mont Blanc*, *Queen of the Netherlands*, and *Grandeur à Merveille*. *Paix de l'Europe* was also another flower of great beauty. Then there were, *Haydn*, a violet, magenta-coloured flower, very bright, and striking; *Ida*, a clear canary colour; *Mrs. Beecher Stowe*, large and fine with pink bells; *Charles Dickens*, shaded porcelain blue; *General Havelock*, very dark bluish black; *Koh-i-noor*, salmon red, new and very fine; and *Duc de Malakoff*, the subject of our Plate, a very striking flower, nankeen-yellow ground, with broad stripes of crimson in each petal. Many of these are high-priced varieties, single bulbs selling at a guinea each, while others are very moderate, the more expensive kinds being mainly purchased by those who compete for prizes.

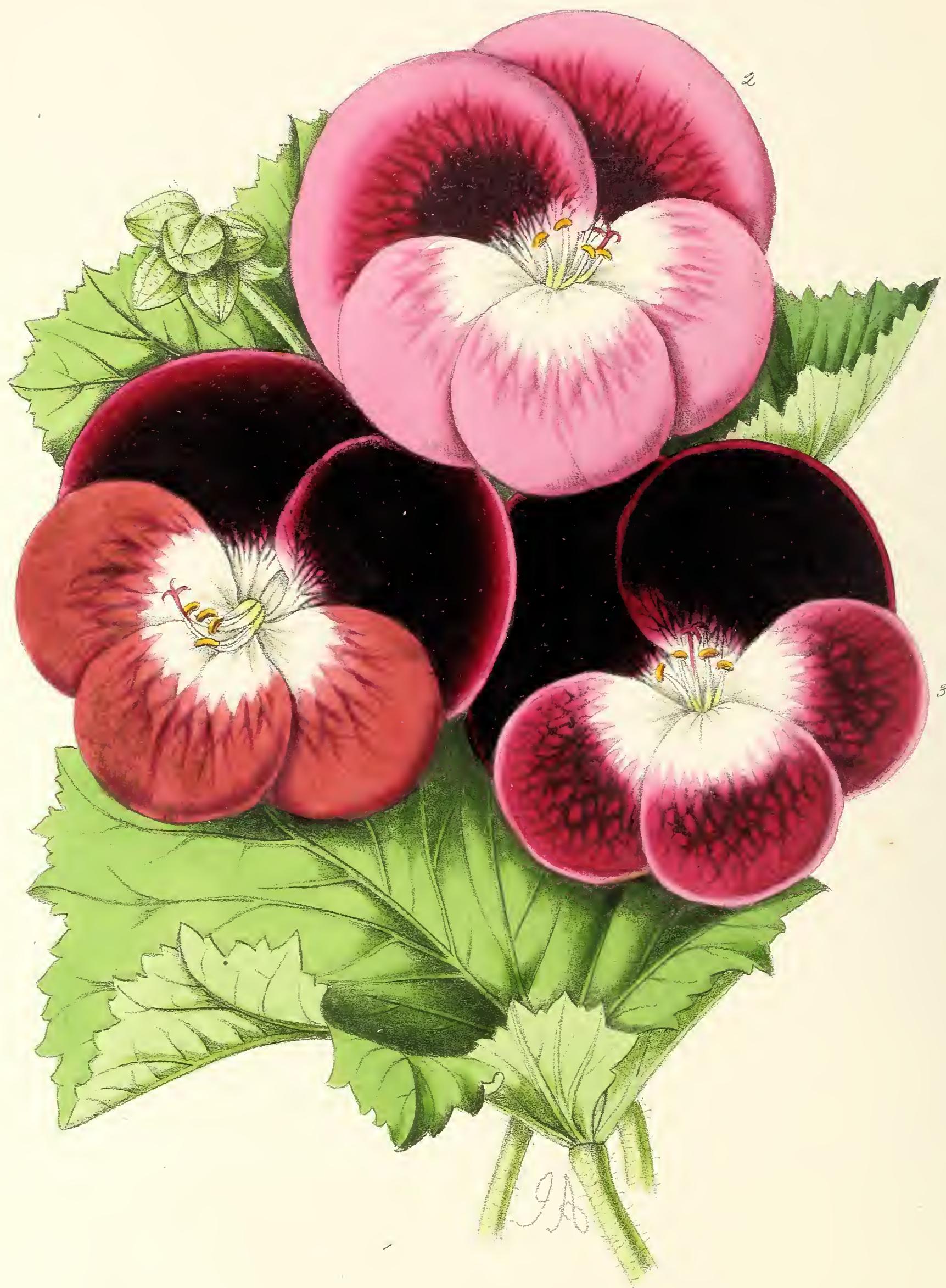


PLATE 99.

VARIETIES OF SHOW PELARGONIUM.

Pelargonium hybridum, vars.

Within a period of little more than twelve months three of the most distinguished amateur raisers of seedling Pelargoniums have been taken from amongst us,* leaving Mr. Hoyle, of Reading, the raiser of those now figured, almost alone—although we have hopes that Mr. Millar, of Upway, the raiser of Foxhunter Verbena, from what we saw of his preparations last autumn, may ere long occupy a foremost place; for, albeit that we have arrived at such a pitch of perfection that improvement becomes most difficult, yet so capricious are these garden hybrids that it is impossible to tell what new strain may be hit upon; new colours or markings, or even increased size may yet be attained.

Mr. Hoyle's flowers have for many years obtained (we may safely say) the first position among Pelargonium growers, a fact which is sufficiently attested by the large number of them that appear in the collections shown for competition at the various metropolitan shows; the most striking testimony to that being, that Mr. Foster, who was himself a most successful raiser, always exhibited a much larger proportion of Mr. Hoyle's flowers than his own: in size, smoothness of petal, substance, and shape they are in our opinion far superior to the flowers of other raisers.

So much has been said at various times in the 'Floral Maga-

* Edward Beck, of Isleworth; the Rev. Richard Garth, of Farnham; and E. Foster, Esq., of Clewer Manor. We believe that Mr. Walter Beck will not allow the Worton Cottage strain to be lost. Mr. Garth had long ceased to raise new flowers, though he was one of the first to give an impetus to the great improvement that has taken place in this beautiful flower.

zine' with regard to the culture of this favourite flower, that we deem it hardly necessary to add anything more on the subject. We happened this day to receive a visit from the gardener of a friend at Tunbridge Wells,* who detailed to us a method of treatment which he has found to be entirely successful, but which completely alters the plan adopted by growers; we hope to see ere long the results of it, about which he was very sanguine, and shall at some future time be enabled to refer to it.

In order to show the varieties to advantage, and to figure a larger number, we have preferred giving one pip of each to crowding the plate. In *Celeste* (Fig. 1) we have an entirely new shade of colour, the lower petals being of a rich orange-scarlet, the upper petals deep maroon, with a bright scarlet margin and a clear white centre; altogether a very novel and striking flower. *Mrs. Hoyle* (Fig. 2) is a fine light flower, the lower petals violet-rose, upper petals same colour, shaded with red, with a small black spot, and it is a peculiarly soft-looking flower of good substance and fine quality; both of these received first-class certificates from the Royal Botanic Society. *Princetta* (Fig. 3) is a very beautiful dark flower, the upper petals glossy-black, with a fiery-crimson margin, lower petals heavily pencilled with dark-red and rose, centre of the flower clear white, very smooth and beautiful, and altogether a most pleasing flower; in fact, we do not consider Mr. Hoyle to have overrated these flowers when he said they were among the best he has ever raised.

* The Rev. George Goldney, an enthusiastic florist.

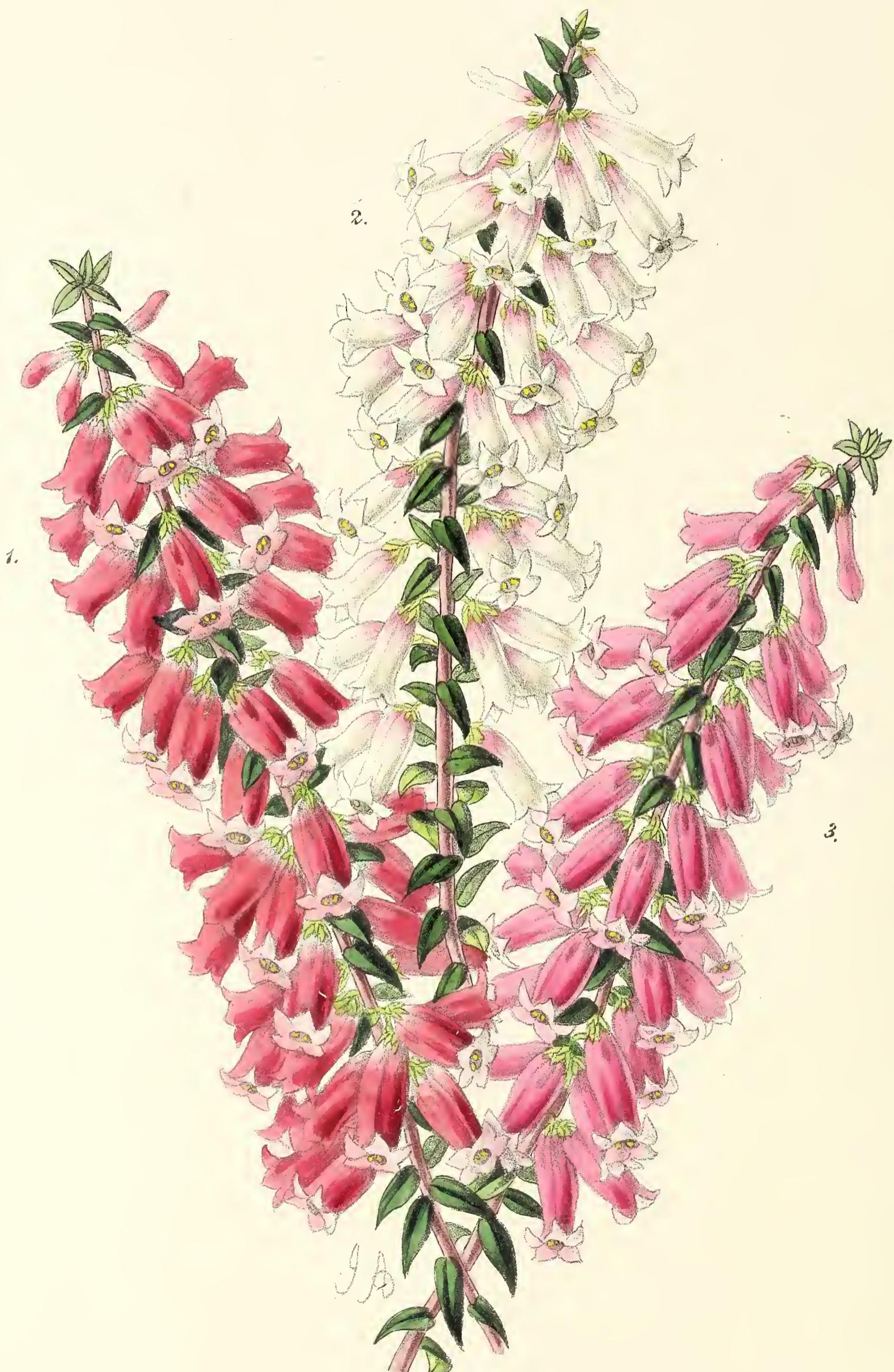


PLATE 100.

VARIETIES OF EPACRIS.

Epacris hybrida.

Amongst the various greenhouse plants which tend to enliven the early spring months, there are none on which more dependence can be placed, and which are more useful, than the Epacris; bearing some similarity in appearance to the Ericas they are of much easier culture, and, whether for cutting for bouquets or ornamenting the stages of the greenhouse, are very desirable plants.

Finding that they seeded easily, that busy tribe (which, like the bee, will let no flower alone) the florists, have essayed their hand at hybridizing them, and the result has been the production of many beautiful varieties; and thus have they succeeded in introducing confusion to another race of plants, to the infinite horror of botanists, who consider that "we have a great deal to answer for."* The late Mr. W. H. Storey was a most successful raiser of them, and three of his varieties, which were sent out by Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Co., of the Wellington Road Nursery, this spring, are represented in the plate. They are, *Fireball* (Fig. 1), the buds of a brilliant crimson, opening as the flower expands, into a rich red; it blooms in long and close racemes. *Butterfly* (Fig. 2) is one of the parti-coloured varieties, the tubes being white and the base a light-rose; it is described as being free, and being also a late bloomer. *Exquisite* (Fig. 3) is a beautiful bright rosy-pink colour, the lobes of the tube being of a light blush, the individual flowers are large and stout. All these varieties, together with some others of the same strain, are effective, from the closeness with which the flower-buds are set upon the plants.

* An expression used to us the other day by one who has enriched our gardens with the botanical treasures of China and Japan.

There is no difficulty in the culture of this tribe of plants; they succeed best in fine fibrous peat, and should be repotted when the blooming season is over, which will generally be in the month of April, although some kinds bloom later than others; care should be taken that the ball is thoroughly moist before the repotting takes place, as more plants die from neglect of this, both in Epacris and Heaths, than probably from any other cause. They should be kept tolerably close for a few days, and then, if the weather be favourable, they may be placed out of doors for the summer months; we prefer placing them under the shade of tiffany to exposing them to the full influence of the weather, as the hair-like roots are apt to get injured when they reach the side of the pots, and care should be taken that they stand on a good layer of coal-ashes so as to prevent the entrance of worms into the pots, which disturb the drainage and do otherwise great injury; the knife may freely be used, to shorten the long shoots which some kinds are apt to throw up and thereby spoil the symmetry of the plants.



PLATE 101.

GERANIUM MRS. POLLOCK.

Pelargonium zonale, var.

While the skill and diligence of hybridizers have been rewarded in the section of show Pelargoniums with such flowers as we figured in our last number, another division of the same family, the zonate, or horse-shoe-leaved ones, has produced a number of varieties, which are year by year becoming more striking in the markings of their foliage. One of the more recent examples of these Mr. Andrews has faithfully portrayed in our plate.

We had the other day an opportunity of examining a large number of plants of three varieties in this section, at Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Son's, Wellington Road Nursery, viz. *Mrs. Pollock*, *Sunset*, and *Lucy Grieve* (the latter not being as yet sent out), and we are inclined to think that of the two former, *Mrs. Pollock* will be found to be the most generally useful; its habit is more robust than *Sunset*, and it appears to be of a different race; and in this opinion we were strengthened by that of our friend Mr. Andrew Henderson: the lobes of the leaves are not so deeply cut, there is moreover a difference in the shade of green, and the whole surface of the foliage is hairy, while in *Sunset* it is smooth or nearly so; there is also a difference in the flower, those of *Mrs. Pollock* being of a much deeper scarlet. *Lucy Grieve* seems to excel, in brilliancy of marking, either of the varieties named; probably during the present season an opportunity will be afforded the floral world of judging both of its real and comparative merits. Nor are these the only novelties that are possessed by the enterprising firm; we saw, amongst a number of seedlings, some golden-leaved ones from which the green had entirely vanished, and a broad dark zone was distinctly marked.

Of the really beautiful and striking appearance of such a plant as *Mrs. Pollock* we do not think there can be a second opinion, and when it becomes more plentiful, we are certain that it will be very popular, especially for pot culture; for although last year it retained, Mr. Henderson informed us, its brilliant markings out-of-doors, yet in a wet summer we should be almost afraid of its doing so. None of the zoned varieties of the silver-edged section certainly retain their peculiar tints in the open air; we have grown nearly all of them, such as *Fontainebleau*, *Picturatum*, *Burning Bush*, and have always found that the bright pink or crimson zone disappeared in such situations.

We do not think it necessary, with so beautiful and accurate a portrait as that in our Plate, to give any lengthened description of *Mrs. Pollock*, and shall merely add, that the most desirable varieties in the silver-edged section, containing the pink zone, are in our opinion *Picturatum*, *Hôtel de Cluny*, *Burning Bush*, *Attraction*, and *Fontainebleau*; and that in the cultivation of all these varieties, it will be found desirable to be more careful of drainage and to use lighter soil than in the ordinary kinds of horse-shoe foliaged Geraniums.



PLATE 102.

DOUBLE-FLOWERED CHINESE PRIMROSE.

Primula prænitens (fimbriata flore pleno), vars.

There is hardly any flower more generally useful for the early spring decoration of greenhouses, and for indoor purposes generally, than the Chinese Primrose; seeding freely, easy of cultivation, and blooming for a lengthened period, resisting at the same time those influences of dust and close confinement so prejudicial to many plants, it possesses qualifications which make it so general a favourite that any improvement in its general aspect will be hailed with pleasure by all lovers of plants, and such improvement we believe the subjects of our present plate present.

In our last volume we figured some varieties which had been introduced by various growers, amongst them a semidouble one, exhibited by Mr. Charles Turner, of Slough; since then two semidouble ones, which were said to come true from seed, and called *nivea plena* and *rubella plena*, have been introduced by Mr. William Bull, of Chelsea, from the Continent; but these are all excelled, in our opinion, by the very desirable varieties figured in our plate, which were exhibited by Messrs. F. and A. Smith, the eminent nurserymen of Dulwich, and were greatly admired at the Exhibition of the Royal Horticultural Society in April last, when the red-flowered variety received a first-class certificate from the Floral Committee. In *delicata* we have a delicate flesh-coloured flower (white on first opening), and very double, the petals being deeply fringed and of large size; while in *rubra grandiflora* we have a flower, equally good in character, but of a deep-red colour: unlike the old double Chinese Primrose, which was always difficult to keep (owing to its delicacy of constitution), these varieties are robust, and come true from seed, Messrs. Smith having shown several seedling plants exactly alike to confirm their statement.

The same gentlemen also exhibited an exceedingly dwarf variety, called the *Fairy*, also said to come true from seed; and, when we also bear in mind that the new fern-foliaged ones, exhibited by Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Son, possess the same quality, may we not reasonably infer that still greater novelties may be in store for us?

In sowing the seed of the Chinese Primroses, reference will of necessity be made as to the period when they are desired for blooming; those who require them early will sow in the months of May and June, while for later-blooming plants, the months of August and September will be sufficiently early. As soon as the seedling plants are large enough to handle, they should be pricked off into small pots separately, and kept in a warm portion of the greenhouse; they will soon make growth, and as they increase in size should be shifted into larger pots, using a light and rich soil of which leaf-mould forms a large portion, and with careful attention to watering, will give a succession of bloom during the dreariest months of the year.



PLATE 103.

ELEGANT NEMOPHILA.

Nemophila discoidalis, elegans.

We are indebted to the kindness of Messrs. Charlewood and Cummins, of Covent Garden, for the opportunity of figuring this very beautiful variety of *Nemophila*, which was exhibited by them at a meeting of the Floral Committee last year, when it received a label of commendation, as an annual worthy of general cultivation.

All the individuals of this family are favourites, and there is probably more of the pretty little blue *Nemophila insignis* sown than of any other annual, with the exception of Mignonette; and, as they are perfectly hardy, they can be sown in the autumn to stand during the winter, when they come into bloom very early, and can be removed before the bedding plants are put out; in pots, too, on the front shelf of a greenhouse, they make nice flowering plants during winter, *N. maculata* being especially desirable for this purpose. The variety of *N. atomaria* which we figured in our last volume is a pretty addition to the garden varieties of this family, and so, we think it will be admitted, is the one we now figure.

We are informed by Mr. Cummins, that *N. discoidalis elegans* was first observed by their gardener about three years ago, in a bed of *discoidalis*, and that upon being consulted by him he thought it worth while to select it as a distinct variety; since then it has been grown separately, and a sufficient quantity of seed has been obtained to enable the raisers to distribute it to the public in the course of the next season, when we doubt not it will find its way into the hands of most lovers of garden flowers.

We cannot do better, we think, than give, as a description of it, the report made by the Floral Committee in the Horti-

cultural Society's Proceedings:—" *Nemophila discoidalis elegans*. In this variety, which is a very pretty one, the flowers are of a bright-chocolate or light reddish-maroon, conspicuously bordered with white; the colours are distinctly marked and effective. It is commended as a desirable annual or general cultivation."



PLATE 104.

AZALEA DUC D'AREMBERG.

Azalea indica, var.

The frequenters of the various horticultural exhibitions held during the last month at Kensington, the Regent's Park, and the Crystal Palace, could not fail to have been struck with the wonderful specimens of Azaleas contributed by various growers, both public and private; they have been, indeed, for many years a leading feature of the May exhibitions, but we think that this year they have been finer than ever; newer varieties are being brought forward, and some of the older and less effective ones are displaced—this being a work of time, where the plants must necessarily be so large.

The hybridizers, both of the continent and this country, are emulating one another in their endeavour to bring before the public new and sterling varieties, and during the past few years have been very successful in their attempts to improve it, both in form and colour—Messrs. Kinghorn, Ivery, Frost, and others, in England, and Mons. Verschaeffelt and other growers in Belgium, having largely added to our floral treasures in this family. One of the more recent of the continental varieties forms the subject of our present plate; it was exhibited by Messrs. F. and A. Smith, of Dulwich, at the April show of the Royal Horticultural Society, and received a first-class certificate; the flowers are of good form and substance, of a delicate salmon-pink colour, with a broad distinct margin of white, the pink being striped and dashed with red; the upper petals are spotted at the base with deep red, and altogether it is very well worthy of the position that it occupied.

The cultivation of the Indian Azaleas is by no means difficult, and their exceedingly free-flowering habits render them alike valuable to the exhibitor, who wishes to make a blaze of beauty,

or to the private grower, who merely desires them for home decoration. In a conversation we had some little time since with one of the most eminent growers and most successful exhibitors of the flower, he informed us, that it was his practice never to place them out-of-doors, as is generally done, and to keep them growing for at least six months in the year, adding, that as his plants did not cease growing until the end of August, and that they must be removed into the house in October, they would only be, under any circumstances, three or four weeks out-of-doors. In preference to doing this, he throws open the front and sides of his house and allows a free circulation of air; for it oftentimes happens, that when in the open air, they are caught by one of the early autumnal frosts, and although the results of this do not immediately appear, yet the blooms ultimately drop off, and thus disappoint the grower's hopes; and, if we are to judge by results, his plan must be the right one, for not only are his plants models of growth, but he invariably holds the first place as an exhibitor.



PLATE 105.

CAMELLIA, CONTESSA LAVINIA MAGGI.

Camellia japonica, var.

If considerable disappointment were experienced, that at the Spring Exhibitions of this year, so few plants of Camellia comparatively speaking, were brought forward for competition, the same feeling could not have existed with regard to the varieties shown. The exquisite form of *Sarah Frost* (an American variety), the snowy whiteness of the *Duchesse de Berri*, and the regular markings of the variety we now figure, were the admiration of all who had the good fortune to see them.

The Royal Horticultural Society, anxious to see a better display of this universal favourite, has offered a very liberal prize to be competed for at their Spring Exhibition next season, which will not be confined to amateurs, but open to all. We may then expect to see such a display of Camellias as the London world has never before had an opportunity of witnessing. Already we have heard the note of preparation on many sides, and doubtless many of the newer varieties will be shown in a better condition than they have hitherto been.

Contessa Lavinia Maggi was exhibited by both Mr. John Standish, of Bagshot, and Messrs. Veitch and Son, of Exeter and Chelsea. The latter firm showed it at the exhibition on the 19th of March, when it was awarded a first-class certificate from the Floral Sub-Committee. Our figure was taken from the plant exhibited by Mr. Standish, who very obligingly lent it to our artist for that purpose. It is a very fine variety, of vigorous habit; the colour a blush-white, regularly marked with bright carmine stripes; the form is very good, the petals being regularly imbricated, and the flower-wells filled up to the centre. The markings seemed to us also to be more constant than is the case with many of the varieties hitherto

grown—such as *Tricolor*, *Countess of Derby*, etc. It is, as its name imports, a flower of Italian origin, a country from whence many of the best of our modern varieties have been received.

We have nothing to add to our previous remarks on the subject of cultivation, and we believe that the superior vigour of many of the newer sorts will remove any difficulties that may have attended the successful growth of this most lovely tribe.



PLATE 106.

MAUVE-COLOURED SWAINSONIA.

Swainsonia violacea.

During a hurried visit we lately paid to Messrs. E. G. Henderson and Son's Nursery, St. John's Wood, we came upon a new and remarkable pea-shaped flower, growing in the same span-roofed pit which has been already made famous by the successful treatment of two of the most beautiful climbers known, *Lapageria rosea* and *Clianthus Dampierii*, and on inquiry found it to be the plant of which blooms had been recently before the Floral Committee, where it had excited a good deal of attention as a new species of *Swainsonia*.

According to the account given to us by Mr. Andrew Henderson, the seeds of it had been forwarded to them from the interior of Australia as those of a new scarlet Clianthus. This plant was raised by them, and planted last year in its present situation in the border of the pit. From the difficulty of keeping it free from red spider, and from its general aspect, they were led to believe that it was a hardy plant, and they had intended placing it out of doors; but as it started for growth early this season, they allowed it to remain in its present position, and have been rewarded by a display of beautiful spikes of mauve-coloured flowers, a shade of colour, we believe, hitherto unknown amongst pea-shaped flowers. Mr. Henderson himself thought that it was likely to prove hardy; but whether it be so or not, it will be a most desirable acquisition to any collection.

Swainsonia violacea (so named by Dr. Lindley) is an herbaceous plant, somewhat similar in its appearance to others of the same genus, though it looked almost as if it were "halfway between it and Clianthus." Its habit may be described as that of a half-climber, reaching about five feet in height. The

spikes of mauve-coloured flowers are produced in great abundance from the axils of the leaves, each flower being about an inch across, the whole plant being very beautiful.

It had not as yet produced seed, and must therefore be propagated by cuttings, although we have little doubt but the same skill which has succeeded in seeding so abundantly the Lapageria and Cianthus will also very shortly conquer this difficulty also, and we shall then expect to see this plant as extensively grown as they are at present.

Mr. Andrew Henderson has obligingly sent us, in answer to some questions we put to him, the following notes:—

“The propagation of the Swainsonia would be by cuttings, and there is no doubt but that it will seed freely on strong plants, as several formed seed-pods with us. The plant appears to be very hardy, indeed I believe it to be *quite* hardy; against a wall it will be very fine, and its full beauty has not yet been seen; it is a robust-growing plant, and with that, a very prolific bloomer. We planted out a small plant quite late in August, last year; it grew freely, but had not time to establish itself; after the severe winter we had, I took it up, and the base was fresh, and green eyes were just pushing; we potted it, and it just started off and then died: so that a plant fairly established, I expect, will live out-of-doors; a slight protection, such as a mat, and planted against a wall, will ensure it.”



PLATE 107.

METEOR FUCHSIA.

Fuchsia hybrida, var.

At every place where an opportunity has been afforded of exhibiting plants during the present spring, the Messrs. Carter, of Holborn, have brought forward considerable quantities of this new-foliaged Fuchsia. It has been generally admired, and at the Royal Botanic Society received a certificate of merit as a pretty-foliaged plant.

The desire for novelties has extended itself to any variegation in foliage, even of the most common British plants, and certificates have been awarded during the past two seasons for what many would regard as mere wayside plants, the modern style of gardening, both in and out of doors, freely making use of any departure from the ordinary green foliage; and foliaged plants, from the magnificent *Cyanophyllum* down to the little *Veronica*, find their admirers. To all such persons this new variegated Fuchsia will be an acquisition, for it is a departure from the ordinary white and green, and yellow and green, of which so many consist.

We understand that *Meteor* was received by the Messrs. Carter from the Continent, and that it is one of those with semi-double corollas; but the character of the flower is of little moment, as it will be grown for the foliage, and not for the bloom. The leaves, as will be seen on reference to the figure, are of a rich golden yellow, variegated with bronze; the ends of the young shoots are of a rich crimson. The plant altogether is not unlike in appearance when young to an *Amaranthus*; and we are informed that a very large number of it will be distributed, those who have seen it at the various exhibitions being greatly pleased with it. We therefore feel that it may well stand on its own merits, without needing any recommendation beyond that which Mr. Andrews's pretty and correct drawing will be sure to convey.

The complaints that have been so justly made, against the style of exhibiting Fuchsias which has hitherto prevailed, are no longer likely to be deserved. The long, gaunt, pyramidal plant, kept in its constrained form by stakes and hoops, is not likely to be an eyesore at our future exhibitions, for a collection of small plants, admirably grown, was shown at the June fête of the Royal Botanic Society, and received the first prize; the exhibitor being greatly complimented on having broken through the old routine form of ill-managed plants.



PLATE 108.

AURICULAS—GEORGE LIGHTBODY AND SOUTHERN STAR.

Primula Auricula, var.

After many years of neglect, as far as the south of England is concerned, this beautiful spring flower seems once more to be rapidly rising into favour. The prizes offered for it at the spring shows of the Royal Botanic and Royal Horticultural Societies have greatly encouraged growers, and the large number of plants brought together at the first National Auricula Show, held on the 30th April, at the Royal Botanic Society's Gardens, enabled the general public to see the peculiar charms which belong to this class of Flora's beauties.

There is, as was observed by many of those who witnessed the National Show, a special charm about these very unique flowers. The regularity of their colours, the curious mealy-looking powder which marks some, and the handsome foliage of many of the varieties, are to be met with in no other tribe, and it is not wonderful that growers have been so enthusiastic over their particular favourites; and one had but to notice the eager groups, on the occasion alluded to, discussing the merits of the various plants, to see how completely their minds were engaged about them, and how unwilling they would have been to have admitted any other flower on an equality with them.

We have selected two for our present illustration; one, *George Lightbody*, raised by our esteemed friend Mr. Headly, of Stapleford, near Cambridge, received the premier prize at the National Show, as being the best flower exhibited in about 300 plants. This is a high honour, but no higher than it deserves. We once regarded it as inferior to that very fine flower, *Lancashire Hero*, and expressed an opinion to that effect, which however now we willingly retract. It is a flower of very re-

markable regularity, and when obtained in good condition no doubt holds the position assigned to it. All lovers of the Auricula, who know the kind and genial spirit of Mr. Headly, and the high position which Mr. Lightbody holds as a grower, will rejoice that two such names are associated with a flower which will long hold a high place in the favour of Auricula growers. *Southern Star* was exhibited as a seedling by Mr. Holland, gardener to S. W. Peake, Esq., Spring Grove, Isleworth, before the Floral Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, and received a label of commendation. It is a flower of peculiar brightness, a light purplish crimson, and will make a striking novelty on the stage. The paste, as the white portion around the eye is called, is not sufficiently solid, and therefore we can hardly regard it as a first-class exhibition flower; but it will be a favourite, for the sake of contrast, on the home stage.



PLATE 109.

VARIETIES OF SINGLE PETUNIA.

Petunia nyctagineiflora, vars.

While the great advance in double Petunias (which with their large and singularly striking flowers cannot fail to please) has led to the introduction of some lovely varieties, the race of single flowers is evidently making great efforts not to be thrown into the shade altogether; and the very beautiful ones which we now figure will show, we think, that the characters they are now assuming are such as to enable them to retain their hold in the estimation of all lovers of flowers.

All the varieties of Petunia, both single and double, make pleasing pot-plants for the decoration of the greenhouse after the Pelargoniums have gone out of bloom, and they may be grown to almost any size, some specimens which we have seen at the exhibitions this season being quite as large as many of the largest specimen greenhouse plants, which form so prominent a feature at our shows. One variety, somewhat similar to *Flower of the Day*, called *Madame Ferguson*, was exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society, and was not less than seven feet in height, and although the blooms are somewhat evanescent, yet they are produced in such quantities as not to cause this to be any serious defect.

The two varieties now figured were raised by Mr. Holland, gardener to R. W. Peake, Esq., Spring Grove, Isleworth (the raiser of the seedling Auricula, *Southern Star*, figured in our last number), and from him have passed into the hands of Mr. B. S. Williams, of the Paradise Nursery, Seven Sisters Road, Holloway, by whom they will be distributed to the public. Fig. 1, *Rosa belle-forme*, is a flower of very fine shape and good substance, larger and stouter than any in its class; the colour a bright magenta (as it is now called), with a very clear white

throat; the flower stands out well for the foliage, and is altogether an advance on its predecessors, *Shrubland Rose*, *The Queen*, *Fascination*, etc.

Fig. 2, *Flower of the Day*, is the more striking of the two: it is somewhat in the style of *Madame Ferguson*, before alluded to, but the bands, which are bright rosy crimson, are much broader and brighter than in that variety; and we believe it will be found to be equally constant, and that both flowers will be in favour with all admirers of this tribe.

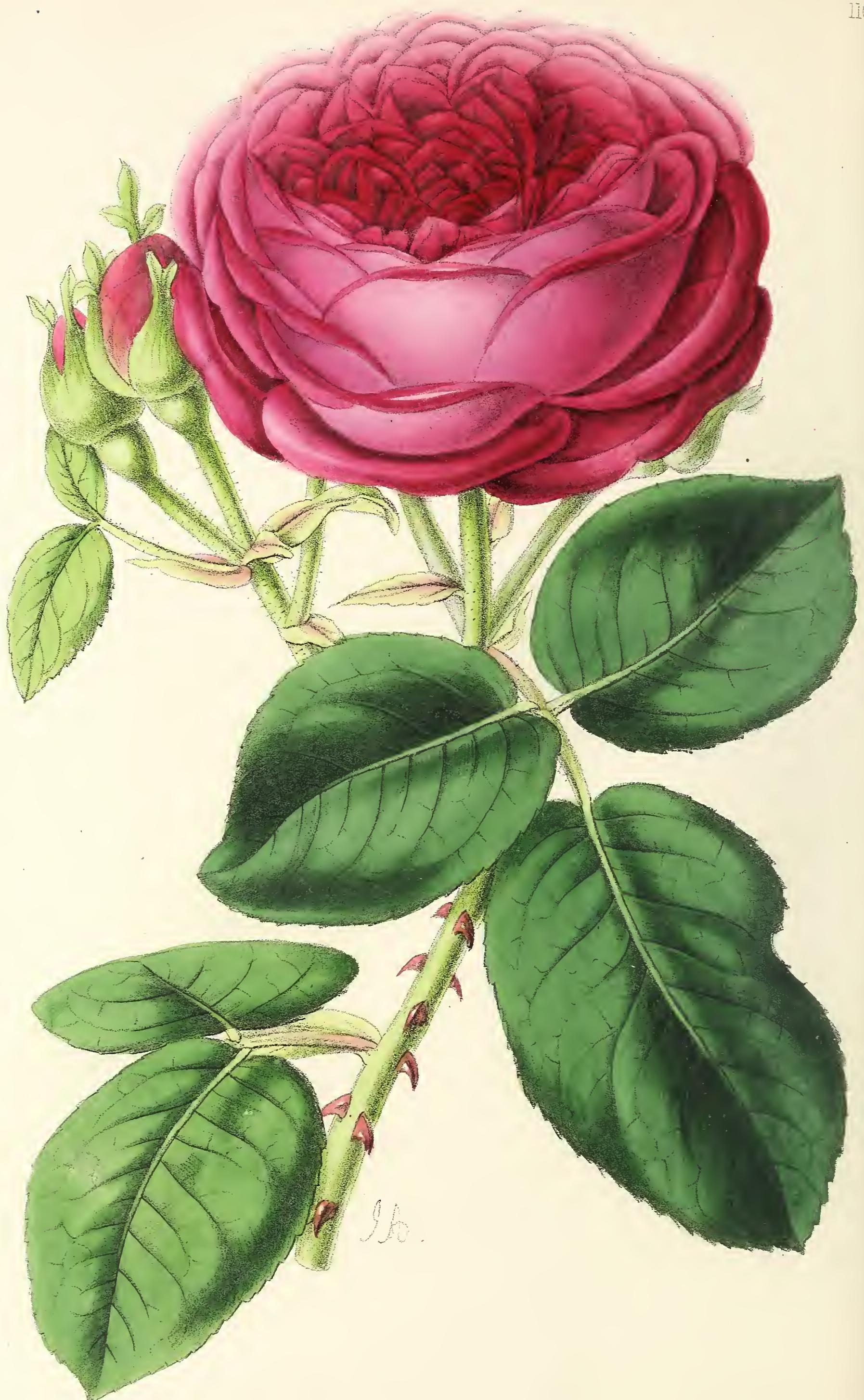


PLATE 110.

“JOHN HOPPER” ROSE.

Rosa hybrida, vars.

A few weeks ago we received from Mr. Ward, of the Rosary, Ipswich, a box containing some truly grand blooms of a new Rose, which he stated that he had succeeded in raising, and which he purposed, if it were thought a desirable variety, to send out this autumn. Our recommendation was to send a box of blooms of it to the Rose Show of the Horticultural Society, where most of the growers and admirers of the Rose would be present, and to receive the decision of the Sub-Committee of the Floral Committee upon it. We believed that there could be but one opinion as to its merits, in which we were fully confirmed by its not only receiving a first-class certificate, but by the unanimous verdict of every one who could obtain a view of it on that occasion.

A new era is thus, we believe, commencing in the history of the Rose. Hitherto we have been contented to receive all our Roses from France, under the persuasion that we could not seed Roses here, and were contented with the honour of *Devoniensis* as our sole English Rose. Now, this season, we have had some first-class Roses brought before us, Mr. Wm. Paul’s *Beauty of Waltham*, Mr. Ward’s *John Hopper*, and Messrs. Paul and Sons’ *Lords Clyde* and *Canning*,—an instalment, we firmly hope and believe, of other beauties yet to follow; and thus the laurels will, we hope, be snatched from our French neighbours, for, if we can raise flowers as good as theirs, we shall most probably have plants better constituted, and more capable of enduring the vicissitudes of our climate, than many of the Continental ones are.

We are informed by Mr. Ward that “*John Hopper* was raised from *Jules Margottin*, hybridized with pollen of *Madame*

Vidot;" and it seems to partake of the admirable free-flowering and vigorous habit of the former, with the exquisite shape of the latter;" and if such points be considered, we have every reason to believe that we shall soon excel our French neighbours, as very few of them hybridize, leaving that to be done by various insects: they gather simply the "hips" when ripe, and hence are not so likely to succeed in procuring all the qualities desired in a good Rose.

Exception has been taken to the unpoetical character of the name. It is commonplace, but we believe that it records something better than poetry—gratitude to a benefactor. It is, we believe, the name of one of those who

" do good by stealth,
And blush to find it fame;"

one to whom Mr. Ward felt a deep debt of gratitude, and after whom he desired, therefore, to name this his first seedling Rose. It remains but to say, that it is a large Rose, somewhat in the style of *Pauline Lanzezeur*, but fuller, the colour a bright crimson suffused with violet, and is of very vigorous habit, bearing twelve or thirteen blooms on one stem, and that it has been highly spoken of by the 'Gardener's Chronicle,' 'Journal of Horticulture,' 'Florist,' 'Gossip for the Garden,' and other gardening publications.



PLATE 111.

VARIETIES OF CINERARIA.

Senecio cruenta, vars.

Amongst the numerous varieties of Cineraria which have been brought under the notice of the public during the present season, some very beautiful self-coloured sorts have attracted considerable notice, and as in our last plate of the general favourite we gave examples of tipped flowers, we have thought it desirable to give in our present one three of the most beautiful of the self-coloured or nearly self-coloured flowers.

It is hardly to be expected that when a flower has reached so high a pitch of excellence as some of our florists' flowers have done, any further *great* advance can be made; but, when we carefully compare (as all who are deeply interested in it will be sure to do) the flowers of the season with those of a year or two back, they will see that a considerable improvement has taken place, both in brightness of colour and in excellence of form, while dwarfness in habit and vigour of growth have been also obtained.

We have found this season that no better place for the old plants of Cineraria, when they are cut down, and offsets are desired, can be found than a tiffany house; they are shaded from the scorching sun, and at the same time not drawn into growth as they would be if kept in a greenhouse; and if this be so in so cold a summer as this has been, we consider that it will be found still more useful when the sun has more power and rain is less abundant. It has been suggested that cocoa-nut fibre refuse, of which so much has been said lately, will be found an excellent material for these plants; and although we are about to try it ourselves, we shall rather do so as an experiment than depend on it altogether.

The three varieties which we now figure were exhibited by

Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough, and were much admired. Fig. 1, *James Andrews*, is a dark-purple flower of good shape and bright colour, and as we have not many varieties of this shade it will be found a desirable acquisition. Fig. 2, *The Artist*, was awarded an extra prize at one of the spring shows of the Royal Horticultural Society, as a bright lively magenta-coloured flower, with a small white circle round the dark disk, somewhat in the way of *Acmé*. Fig. 3, *The Winner*, (not a very euphonious name,) is a large bright-coloured magenta self, dwarf in habit, and an improvement on such flowers as *Adam Bede* and *Reynolds Hole*.



PLATE 112.

TRAILING SARMIENTA.

Sarmienta repens.

Among the many plants which have been introduced to the notice of the public this season by the enterprising firm of Veitch and Son, of Exeter, and King's Road, Chelsea, have been several from Chili; and as they have been obtained from a considerable elevation in the Chilian Andes, they are likely to be many of them, as *Mimulus cupreus*, hardy, while others, such as the curious and interesting plant we now figure, will be well suited for greenhouse culture.

The practice, now so generally adopted, of growing plants in hanging baskets, has led to increased attention being paid to such as have a dwarf and trailing habit, and for such purposes we believe that *Sarmienta repens* will be considered a very desirable addition; it was exhibited by Messrs. Veitch at the first great show of the Royal Horticultural Society at Kensington, when it received a silver Knightian medal from the Sub-Committee of the Floral Committee, as very useful for the purpose. There is a goodly number of plants of this class, suitable for the stove, but those for the greenhouse are rare, and this seems just the very thing we want; the stems, which are very freely produced, branch out in all directions, and strike root as they grow, so that a basket filled with material suitable for them, viz. light peaty soil, will be soon filled with the smooth and fleshy leaves, and the shoots then will hang over the sides. The flowers, as will be seen by reference to the drawing, are very abundant, the colour a light crimson-scarlet, and singular in shape, being tubular, swollen in the centre, and, as has been observed, not a little resembling those of *Mitraria coccinea*, although the habit of the plant is very unlike it; its cultivation will, from all appearance, be easy

enough, and we may therefore expect ere long to see it in every collection where such plants are brought into requisition. Another novelty was exhibited by the same firm, which we considered would be also valuable for this purpose, and one which we hope to figure in some future number, with a *Convolvulus*-looking flower,—*Nolana lanceolata*,—and of very free-flowering habit also.



PLATE 113.

AZALEA, BRILLIANT.*

Azalea indica, var.

In a late number of the 'Floral Magazine' we figured a Continental variety of this favourite flower which had been lately introduced, and largely exhibited during the past season; and we now have the pleasure of placing before our friends another equally beautiful one of an entirely different character; *Duc d'Aremberg* being one of the prettiest of the *variegata* strain, and *Brilliant* an equally effective example of the higher-coloured varieties, of which *Juliana* and *Perryana* are well-known types.

One great charm in this tribe is the great variety of colour that they exhibit: they are to be found of all shades and tints, from the purest white to the most brilliant crimson; and a collection of them, well staged and selected with that care and taste which experience alone can give, produce an effect unsurpassed by any other class of plants. There is perhaps no exhibitor who combines great skill in cultivation with equally good taste in the arrangement of the plants to the same degree Mr. Charles Turner, of the Royal Nursery, Slough. Few, we think, could see his collection at any of the great exhibitions this year without being struck with the exceeding beauty and tasteful arrangement of his plants. The flower which we now figure was exhibited by him in one of his smaller collections, and when it attains the size of those large specimens to which we have alluded, will form a very attractive plant, from the exceeding brightness of its colour, and the beauty of its form.

We have so often given details as to the culture of the Azalea, that we shall, we think, best consult the wishes and

* Scheurman's, and not to be confounded with a dull-coloured red of the same name, already in the catalogues.

interests of our readers by giving a list of those varieties which are most suitable for general cultivation, and in such differences of colour as will make an effective display when grouped together in a conservatory.

In *whites*, it is somewhat difficult to obtain perfect purity, nearly all of those so called at times coming striped or flaked with carmine, violet, or rose. The best we consider are *Admiration*, *Gledstanesii*, *Iveryana*, *Flower of the Day*, *magnifica*, *Leeana superba*, *The Bride*, and *Vesta*. Of variegated flowers, the finest are *Criterion*, *Distinctio*n, *Etoile de Gand*, *Duc d'Aremberg*, and *variegata*: these are all of various shades of salmon, edged with white, and spotted in the centre of the petals. Of scarlet, in various shades, the best are *Ardens*, *Chelsoni*, *Duke of Devonshire*, *Juliana*, *optima*, *Perryana*, and *Gem (Ivery's)*. In various shades of purple, we have *Arborea purpurea*, *Constantia rosea*, *Miltoni*, *Louis Napoleon*, and *Murryana*; while in pink and rose-coloured varieties the most desirable are *coronata*, *Duc de Brabant*, *Model*, *Leopold First*, *Sir Charles Napier*, *Triumphans*, and *Perfection*; and in pure salmon-coloured varieties none exceeds *Sir Henry Havelock*. Many of these are to be had at reasonable prices, and will make a beautiful display when grown with ordinary care, and kept free from thrip and green fly. *Brilliant* is remarkable for the extreme liveliness of its colour, and the great substance of its petals; it is much brighter than *Juliana*, and is, in fact, the finest flower of its class.



PLATE 114.

TWO-COLOURED BEE LARKSPUR.

Delphinium bicolor grandiflorum.

All who have had to arrange flowers, either for a parterre or a bouquet, know how difficult it is to obtain good blues for either one or the other. While reds, and yellows, and their complementary colours are found in abundance, and violets, lilacs, purples, etc., into which blue largely enters, are by no means uncommon, pure blue flowers are very rare; and hence the accession during the past few years of a race of perennial Larkspurs of the dazzling blue of *formosum*, *Hendersoni*, etc., has been hailed as a great boon. In our last volume, we figured one of these raised by Messrs. Fraser; and Mr. Andrews has faithfully represented in our present Plate another of still greater brilliancy.

Delphinium bicolor grandiflorum (a garden variety of the *formosum* group) was raised by Messrs. Downie, Laird, and Laing, of Stanstead Park and Edinburgh, and exhibited by them at the June exhibition of the Royal Horticultural Society, and is thus noticed in their Proceedings:—"A showy variety, with large flowers, in which the sepals were of a dark blue, and the petals creamy white, contrasting strongly with the darker colour surrounding them. This was commended." We may add, that it is very free-flowering, and that it possesses the desirable quality of coming true from seed; and as it seems to be dwarfer habit, it is likely to be very valuable as a border flower and for bedding. We are informed by the raisers that it was obtained by careful selection from seedlings of *formosum*, continued successively for four years, and is therefore likely to have the desirable qualities of that variety, with increased beauty in the spikes, and greater vigour in the habit of the plant.

The *Delphinium* flourishes well in any rich garden soil, espe-

cially when of a loamy character. It is somewhat impatient of excess of moisture, and is a very favourite food of slugs and snails; so much is this the case, that in our own garden, where from its contiguity to open fields they are more than usually numerous, we have found it better to take up the plants in the autumn, pot them in some light soil, and place them in a cold frame; and in the spring, put them out when the shoots have attained the height of four or five inches; when the first bloom is over, if the stalks are cut off carefully a second supply of flowers may be obtained in the autumn months. We have found this plan to answer with *formosum* and *Hendersoni*, and we believe it will also do so with the flower we now figure.



PLATE 115.

VARIETIES OF GLOXINIA.

Gloxinia speciosa, vars.

The cultivation of the numerous varieties of *Gloxinia* is by no means difficult, but cannot be attempted without the use of a hothouse or frame, in which they can be started into growth. The tubers are to be preserved in a dry state during the winter months, in a temperature of about 50°, as if much higher they may start into growth, and if much lower they are very likely to rot.

Those who desire to have a succession of bloom will pot off some of the tubers in January, in soil composed of equal parts of loam, peat, and leaf-mould, with a good portion of silver sand, the temperature of the house being about 70°. Another supply may be potted in February, and so on until the end of April. At first water should be given very sparingly, and indeed at all times during their growth it should not be given abundantly, for the foliage holds a good deal of moisture; they should be therefore syringed lightly. When the flowers make their appearance they may be removed to a warm part of the greenhouse, where or in a conservatory they will blossom freely during the summer months. When their season is over, they may be placed out of doors in order to ripen the tubers, but should not be exposed to heavy rains, which would tend to rot them.

The varieties figured in our plate will be shortly sent out by Mr. Wm. Bull, of the Exotic Nursery, King's Road, Chelsea; one of them belonging to the drooping and three to the erect flowering section. No. 1, *Lauretta*, is a pretty drooping flower, the limb being composed of fine segments of a delicate violet-lavender colour, with pencillings of a deeper shade of the same. No. 2, *Beauty*, is an erect-flowered variety of great delicacy, the

tube being pure white, and the limb of delicate cerise rose, with some slight pencillings of a darker shade. No. 3, *Anonyma*, is another erect-flowered variety, the limb, which is divided into six segments, being of a very similar shade of colour to *Lauretta*, and the throat slightly spotted with light violet. No. 4, *Fairy*, is a flower of great beauty, the white being very clean, and the bright violet rose-colour not covering the entire of the limb, but only the mouth of the tube. There is a slight yellowish tinge in the tube itself, and a little shading of the rose-colour. All the varieties are of fair average size, and are said to be free-flowering in their habits.

Although the Gloxinia is not subject to many diseases, *thrip* occasionally proves troublesome to it; the plants of a friend and neighbour having largely suffered from them this season. Smoking with tobacco is the only effectual way of getting rid of this pest.



PLATE 116.

NEW JAPANESE LILY.

Lilium (nova species).

When it was announced that so experienced a collector as Mr. Robert Fortune was, on the opening out of Japan to European enterprise, about to proceed to that island for the purpose of ransacking its floral treasures, and that a young and ardent botanist, Mr. J. G. Veitch, was engaged in the same object, expectations were high as to the result of their journey. Nor have these expectations been disappointed, for a large accession of plants, new to our greenhouses and gardens, has proved how diligent they have been. The jealousy of the Japanese, however, hindered much exploration into the interior, and the productions sent home have mainly been obtained from Jeddo, or from the Japanese nurseries, which abound in the vicinity of that city.

As Japan had already supplied us with those very beautiful Lilies of the *lancifolium* group, which are such universal favourites, it was naturally expected that we might obtain further additions; and any one who saw the beautiful *Lilium auratum*, exhibited by Messrs. Veitch, and which is also in the possession of Mr. John Standish, of Bagshot, would at once say that it was the most interesting flower exhibited this year. *Lilium Fortunii*, a beautiful yellow Turk's-cap flower, is also likely to be much prized; and the one now figured, although neither so showy nor so novel as either of the others, will especially (if hardy, which it is likely to be) be of considerable value, from its dwarf habit, for the borders of American beds, and similar places.

It will be seen that this new species is of rather an unusual form, consisting, as it does, of a double row of petals, the outer ones reflexing, and the inner row standing semi-erect. The

colour is a very deep bronze-red, the centre of the petals being spotted with black, and with numerous papillæ of a lighter shade of colour than the petals. The plant itself is slender in habit; the leaves narrow and pointed, its length being about one foot or eighteen inches: it will succeed in a light and rich soil, such as other Japanese Lilies delight in.

His many engagements have prevented Mr. Standish, as yet, from sending it to either of our great botanical authorities, Sir William Hooker or Dr. Lindley; but we believe it is his intention to do so immediately.



PLATE 117.

NEW HYBRID ERYTHRINA.

Erythrina ruberrima.

During a visit paid not long since to Paris, we had an opportunity of observing how largely the different varieties of Erythrina, or Coral tree, are used in the ornamentation of flower-gardens, the more genial climate of the French metropolis being favourable to their development in such situations. We subsequently visited the well-known horticultural establishment of Messrs. Thibaut and Keleteer, in the Rue Charonne, and are indebted to the latter gentleman for the opportunity of figuring the newest and, we believe, the most valuable of the garden hybrids which judicious crossing has introduced amongst us.

It is to M. Belanger, of Tours, that we owe the improvement that has taken place in this very showy tribe of flowering plants. With considerable skill, he has contrived to obtain the brilliant colour of *E. Crista-galli* upon a more dwarf and free-flowering habit; and when well grown nothing can exceed the brilliancy of their appearance. In our colder climate they will succeed only in sheltered places, but make admirable pot-plants, requiring however liberal treatment to effect this object.

The various varieties of Erythrina, at least those of the *Crista-galli* section, are "subshrubby herbaceous plants," having a woody crown, from which arise each spring the stems, terminating in a gorgeous spike of bloom of brilliant crimson or scarlet flowers. When they have done flowering, the stem (notwithstanding that its woody appearance might lead one to suppose that it was intended to be permanent) must be cut down, and the plant then allowed a season of rest: at the base of this stem will be observed a number of buds; from these issue the shoots, in February or March. The plants should then be disrooted, and repotted in a mixture composed of equal parts

of yellow loam, leaf-mould, and peat, with a little silver sand. They should then be placed in some situation where they can obtain a little gentle bottom heat, and when fairly started may be removed into an intermediate house, and thence into the conservatory or greenhouse. When the experiment of growing them as bedding plants is desired, two- or three-year-old plants should be used. They should be planted out in some sheltered situation in June; and when cut down, if it is intended to keep them in the ground, should be covered over with leaf-mould, or cocoa-nut fibre, to the depth of ten or twelve inches, with some external covering to throw off the wet.

The most valuable of the garden varieties are *Belangeri*, *Marie Belanger*, *floribunda*, and *ruberrima*. *Belangeri* is not dwarf; and *floribunda*, although deserving of its name from the fact that it blooms in a very early stage, has, we were informed by M. Keleteer, the fault of sometimes not flowering. We saw a whole bed of it in the Parc de Montceaux without a single spike of bloom. *Ruberrima*, on the other hand, is very constant in its blooming character, and we therefore think that it and *Marie Belanger* will form the most valuable varieties for general purposes.



PLATE 118.

PINKS, ATTRACTION AND DEVICE.

Dianthus caryophylloides, vars.

We perceive, on referring to the Proceedings of the Royal Horticultural Society, that the Floral Committee have, during the present season, awarded no less than six first-class certificates and one second-class to new Pinks—a sufficient proof, we think, that, notwithstanding the perfection to which we have attained in this as in other florists' flowers, improvement is still possible; and that in the judgment of that body there is still merit to be found in the new varieties brought before them.

We are glad to find that, notwithstanding his oft-repeated declaration of giving up the growth of this sweet and (when well managed) very pretty flower, Dr. Maclean, to whom is mainly owing the great progress made in the Pink, is still engaged in the work of hybridizing; both of the flowers, which have been very accurately rendered by Mr. Andrews, being raised by him, and they are assuredly sufficiently beautiful to tempt any one to grow them. It must however be borne in mind, that such specimens are not to be obtained without great care and skill; indeed, it is the same with all flowers. The gorgeous Dahlias exhibited at the Crystal Palace and Kensington; the beautiful boxes of Verbenas, and the grand spikes of Hollyhocks, all have special treatment given to them to produce them in the state in which they are exhibited; and if the same varieties are grown in the ordinary way (however carefully), the same result must not be expected.

Pinks have been peculiarly fine and well laced during the past season, a cool and moist spring suiting them best; in dry seasons, the lacing, as the coloured edge is called, being frequently even in the highest-coloured varieties absent. One point,

which is not sufficiently attended to when fine flowers are desired, is disbudding: not more than three flower-stems should be allowed to each plant, and not more than three buds left on each stem; where, however, the variety is a very full one more may be left.

Amongst the new varieties exhibited this season have been *Marion**, *Bridesmaid**, *Exquisite**, *Device**, *Bertram**, *Attraction*, *Blondin*; sent by Mr. Turner: and *Mr. F. Coaffe*, by Mr. Hooper, of Bath: those marked * have attained first-class certificates. *Device* is a flower of large size, very full, and well marked; the colour, a bright rosy-purple; the petal being very smooth, and as it is technically called rose-leaved. *Attraction*, although not honoured by the same distinction, is, in the opinion of Mr. Turner and his intelligent foreman, Mr. Ball, likely to prove a very useful flower. It is not so full or large as *Device*, but is remarkable for the size and smoothness of its guard petals; the colour, too, is of a very bright violet-purple, and the lacing very decided. We trust to see these and other varieties of this favourite flower largely exhibited during the next season at Kensington.



PLATE 119.

VARIETIES OF PHLOX.

Phlox decussata, vars.

How greatly we are indebted to foreign raisers for the productions which enrich our gardens and greenhouses, the large amount of French names to be found in the catalogues of most of those flowers on which the skill of the hybridizer has been exercised sufficiently testify; nor is the Phlox an exception to the rule, nearly all the beautiful varieties of it having reached us from France.

M. Lafontaine, an amateur grower whose *spécialité* is the Phlox, and M. Lierval, of Ternes, close to Paris, are the channels through which the greater number have come to us. The former gentleman grows nearly 30,000 seedlings every year; several are selected from these and tried a second year by M. Lierval, and then distributed to the public; the great points aimed at being dwarf habit, a good head of bloom, and distinctness of colour. Nothing can be more beautiful than the large beds of these to be seen at M. Lierval's; but the bright and sunny atmosphere of Paris is more suited for them than our moister climate—a shower of rain or even a fog considerably detracting from their beauty. In a dry and bright season they are especially beautiful.

Although the Phlox flowers freely in the first year of its growth, it may be said to be in perfection the following season; after that the flowers deteriorate, and it is better to renew them by fresh cuttings. The soil should be rich, as they like liberal culture, and if not so naturally, a good supply of well rotted manure should be added to it; the well-established plants should be planted about two feet apart, and if the flowering shoots are cut off as soon as the bloom is over, a succession of bloom may be had from July until the end of September. The

plants should be well secured to neat stakes, as they are exceedingly brittle; when it is desired to increase them, they should be taken up and potted, and their growth encouraged. As soon as the shoots are long enough, they should be taken off and placed round the edge of a pot; they will then root rapidly, and may be gradually hardened off so as to be fit to plant out in May.

The varieties which we have figured are some of the recent introductions from France, and we are indebted to Mr. John Standish, of the Royal Nurseries, Bagshot and Ascot, for the opportunity of figuring them. *Madame la Comtesse de Bresson* (fig. 1) is a white flower of excellent shape and substance, with a brilliant rosy carmine eye. *Le Vésuve* (fig. 2) is, in the condition in which we saw it and in which Mr. Andrews has represented it, beautifully striped, but we fear that this is not constant, as it is described as of a purplish-amaranth colour, in either state very beautiful. *Eclair* (fig. 3) is a flower of great brilliancy, a rich rosy-scarlet, with a dark-crimson centre, forming altogether a very effective flower. Little dependence can be placed in the dwarf character ascribed to Phloxes, as those which are eighteen inches high the first season frequently attain the height of two or three feet in the following one, but none of those figured are amongst the more robust-growing varieties.



PLATE 120.

ROSE, LORD CLYDE.

Rosa hybrida, var.

Frequent allusion has been made in the reports of the flower shows held during the present season to English-raised Roses, and amongst others to one raised by Messrs. Paul and Son, of Cheshunt, named *Lord Clyde*, which we now have the pleasure of figuring, believing that, although not what is termed a florist's flower, it will be found a useful and hardy addition to the class of hybrid perpetuals.

We are informed by Mr. George Paul, jun., that it was in the same batch of seedlings from which *Beauty of Waltham* was taken, and that, in the distribution of the stock, it with another good Rose, *Lord Canning*, fell to their share. Being thus of English origin, it is likely to prove of a good constitution; and as it was exhibited in good condition on the 10th of September at Kensington, it is also likely to be a good autumnal bloomer.

The Rose shows of the present season have evidenced the increased and increasing interest taken in the culture of this universal favourite, justly designated the "Queen of Flowers;" and, although a large number of the Roses introduced last autumn from France have proved (as is generally the case) worthless, yet we believe some valuable additions have been made. We may mention, amongst hybrid perpetuals, *François Lacharme*, *Maurice Bernhardin*, *Duc de Rohan*, *Souvenir de Comte Cavour*, *La Brillante*, and *Olivier Delhomme*, as likely to be general favourites; and amongst tea-scented Roses, *Comtesse Ouvrard* and *Gloire de Bordeaux*—the latter a seedling from *Gloire de Dijon*—promise well. Some of them have already been exhibited in good condition, and we believe another season will evidence their high character.

We cannot claim for *Lord Clyde* the honours which have been accorded to *John Hopper* and *Beauty of Waltham*, nor do we think that it is equal in quality to those two Roses. In the earlier part of the season it is very full; the colour, a rich crimson abundantly suffused with a plum-coloured hue, not unlike some of the deeper-coloured Bourbons, such as *Vorace* and *George Peabody*; while in the autumn it approaches very much in appearance to *Duc de Cazes*, the petals being large and highly coloured; and we believe that it will be a very useful Rose, either in the garden or the stand. The success which has thus in several instances been achieved by English-raised seedlings is inducing many others to try the same hitherto un-worked field, and we shall hope to from time to time chronicle the results attained.



PLATE 121.

THE GOLD-BANDED LILY OF JAPAN.

*Lilium auratum.**

We are indebted to the courtesy of our kind friend Mr. Standish, of the Royal Nurseries, Bagshot and Ascot, for the opportunity of figuring the very beautiful variety of this newly introduced and exquisite flower. It was exhibited by him at the Crystal Palace autumn show, where it received as much admiration as did those exhibited by Messrs. Veitch at the Royal Horticultural Society's exhibition. It seems to have been discovered by Mr. Robert Fortune and Mr. J. G. Veitch about the same time, and we are sure our readers will be interested in the following note, most kindly furnished to us by the former gentleman:—

“ *Lilium auratum* is one of the wild flowers of Japan. I met with it for the first time in the summer of 1861, in my rambles on the hillsides near Kanagawa. I observed it pushing up amongst the long grass and brushwood, and watched its progress with much interest, as it was evidently something new. It began to open its flowers on the last days of June, and continued in bloom all July and part of August; that is, during the hottest time of the year. The flower-stems were usually from three to four feet in height, and three, four, and sometimes five large flowers were produced upon a single stem. The fragrance emitted by these flowers scented the air for a considerable distance on all sides of them. There are two or three rather distinct varieties, differing from each other in the colour of the spots on the flower.

“ The roots of this Lily are invariably much deeper in the

* When exhibited at the Crystal Palace, it was suggested by an eminent botanist that the variety should be called *roseum punctatum*. We have, however, left it with its simple name, *auratum*.

earth than those of the other species with which I am acquainted in a wild state. It has been somewhere asserted that these roots are those which are usually sold in the markets, and eaten by the natives. This is a mistake; the edible species is *Lilium tigrinum*."

The Gold-banded Lily (*auratum*) is so called from the beautiful band of yellow which runs down the centre of each petal, giving it a very distinct appearance. The spots, which are irregularly distributed and of various sizes, are in the plants from which the exquisite figure was taken by Mr. Andrews of a beautiful rosy carmine, while in those exhibited by Messrs. Veitch they were chocolate. Thus *two* of the varieties mentioned by Mr. Fortune have been introduced; on this plant, two flowers were produced, and doubtless, when the bulbs are well established, the larger number of four and five will be obtained. It produces pollen in great abundance, and Mr. Standish having succeeded in hybridizing other species of Lily with it, in the hands of so skilful an operator it will doubtless produce some striking results. The size of the bloom from which the drawing was taken was eleven inches across, and therefore, in order to bring it within the dimensions of our Plate, it has been reduced.

We fear it is useless to say anything about its cultivation, for its price is now fifteen guineas, and unless some enterprising collector sends home a quantity of it, we fear it will be a long time before it comes within the reach of the many. It flourishes, however, under the same kind of treatment as that usually given to the Lilies of the *lancifolium* group.



PLATE 122.

WHITE-MARGINED CLARKIA.

Clarkia pulchella (var. *integripetala marginata*).

There are few annuals which seem to exhibit so sportive a character as the *Clarkia*. We have already in the present volume figured a very beautiful double variety, and we now have, through the courtesy of Messrs. Carter, the eminent seedsmen, of Holborn, the opportunity of adding to our Plates the present very chaste and elegant one, which has been originated by them at their seed-farms in Essex, and which will doubtless become a general favourite with all admirers of this pretty tribe.

The very extended rage for what is called the "bedding-out" system of gardening has led to the exclusion to a great extent of annuals from our parterres; but symptoms are not wanting to indicate that very probably ere long there will be a modification of that style. The great flatness of the beds and the sameness of colour have been strongly urged by those who have criticized of late the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society at Kensington Gore, where the style is carried out under the most favourable circumstances; and we may therefore confidently anticipate, that if any change is made, annuals will, some of them at least, be more sought after; for they do unquestionably supply a great variety of colour, and their various heights would tend to break the flatness which a continuous series of Geraniums, Calceolarias, Verbenas, etc., does produce. Whenever that is the case, some of the numerous varieties of *Clarkia* will be greatly sought after.

Few persons are however aware of the great extent to which annuals are grown. In a communication with which we have been favoured by Messrs. Carter, we are informed that they have about one hundred and seventy acres under flower-seeds

in this country, and about the same on the Continent: eight acres are devoted to *Nemophila*, the same to *Mignonette*; to *Saponaria Calabrica*, four and a half; to Virginian Stock, three; to Candytuft, four; and others in like proportions, and this only from one grower. Large quantities are saved in France and Germany; and the Sardinian correspondent of Messrs. Barr and Sugden grows some of the finest and rarest sorts at Nice.

Clarkia integriflora marginata is an exceedingly distinct variety; the petals are of a beautiful lively rose, broadly margined with white, and it is very constant, for on the plant which we examined we did not find a single flower that had come untrue; and this we are assured is the character of the plant generally. Like all its congeners, it is very free-flowering, and succeeds with the ordinary culture given to hardy annuals.

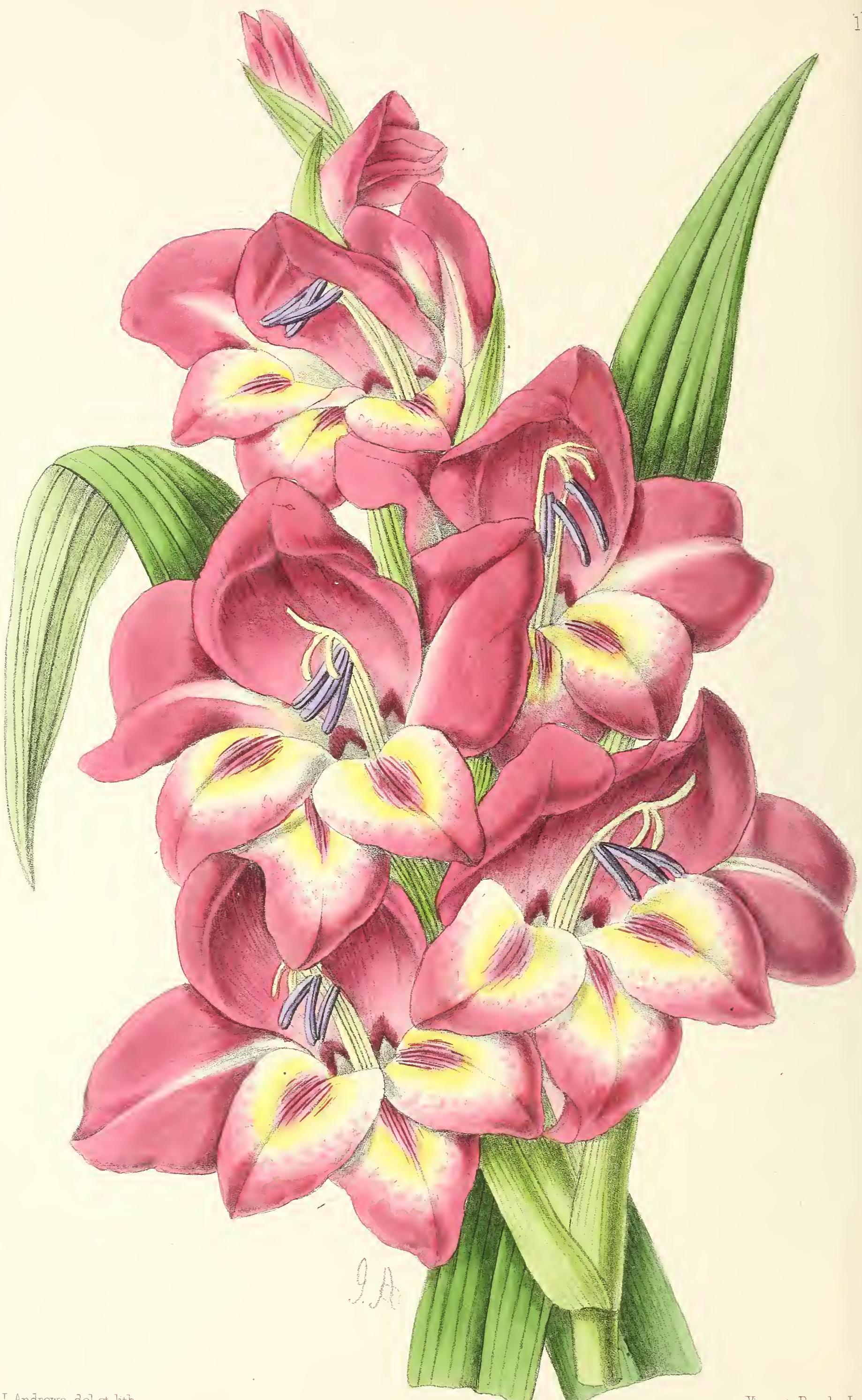


PLATE 123.

GLADIOLUS, MR. J. W. LANE.

Gladiolus gandavensis, var.

The favour with which the Gladiolus has latterly been regarded has strikingly increased within the last twelve months; the display of it at the autumn exhibitions dividing the attention of visitors with the Dahlias and Asters, and by the length of the spikes taking away somewhat of that flat appearance which an exhibition of cut flowers generally has. Sufficient encouragement has however hardly been given to the amateur grower, as there has been no division, either at the Crystal Palace or at the Royal Horticultural Society, into the two classes, of growers for sale and amateurs, and hence the stands exhibited have come entirely from the former class, it being clearly impossible for any amateur to successfully compete with those who grow from one to three acres; we hope and believe that the omission will be remedied next year, when we trust to see a large accession of private exhibitors.

There is one point which we do not think has been sufficiently considered amongst the advantages of this beautiful autumn flower, and that is the length of time the bloom lasts. We do not grow above two hundred bulbs, and yet from the middle of August to the present time, the middle of October, we have never been without some fine spikes; some are even now opening, and should there not be an early frost, will be very fine in a few days' time; it is quite a mistake too to imagine that they do best in light soil, they will bear a good deal of manure and thrive well in it, but then it ought to be applied in the autumn, dug into the ground, and the beds turned up when there is hard frost, so as to get it well incorporated together; and even when the bulbs are planted, an additional supply of well-rotted manure may be added.

The fine variety which we now figure is one of the numerous progeny which have been originated at the Bagshot Nursery by Mr. John Standish, and is named after a very enthusiastic florist, with whom we have ourselves entered the lists in former days in Ireland, and who, to his other successful attempts in the floral warfare, has lately carried off the principal prize for *Gladiolus* at the Autumn Show of the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland. Mr. Standish is still successfully bringing forward many choice kinds, and his catalogue this season will show us what wonderful varieties of colour and marking this beautiful flower is assuming. M. Souchet, too, the equally celebrated raiser at Fontainebleau, has some new flowers of considerable merit it is said, which are being introduced to the public by Messrs. Thibaut and Keteler; they are *Flore*, *De Candolle*, *Impératrice Eugénie*, *Stephenson*, and *John Waterer*: of these *Impératrice Eugénie* is said to be the greatest novelty yet seen; it is more than likely, however, from the description we have seen of it, that it is not unlike the flower we figured (*Mrs. Dombrain*) in an early number of this volume.

The variety now figured is in colour a bright crimson-red, the three lower petals having a broad blotch of buff and a crimson feather in the centre. There are also deep crimson spots in the throat of the flower, making it altogether not only a pretty but a striking flower.



PLATE 124.

ACHIMENES, MAUVE QUEEN.

Achimenes hybrida, var.

There is not for the summer and autumn decoration of our greenhouses a more useful or beautiful plant than the Achimenes; the abundance with which its flowers are produced, and the brilliancy and beauty which characterize them, make them invaluable at a period when the Pelargoniums and other greenhouse plants have passed their prime; and the skill of the hybridizer has been successfully employed in adding numerous varieties, the most recent of which we now have the pleasure of figuring, raised by Mr. Parsons, gardener at Danesbury House, Welwyn, Herts, who has already done more for the improvement of this flower than any other English grower; for those fine sorts, *Dazzle* and *Meteor*, owe their origin to him, and *Mauve Queen* is as great an advance on the *longiflora* class as they were on the high-coloured varieties.

The cultivation of the Achimenes is by no means difficult, but it cannot be successfully attempted without the use of an intermediate house or a warm frame in which the tubers are to be started; for this purpose they should be placed in shallow pans of finely sifted peat and sand, and placed where they can obtain a temperature of 60° or 70°. When they are started, and about an inch in height, they should be transplanted into the blooming-pots, the number of plants required varying of course with the size of the pot; five will with ease well fill one of six inches in diameter, and if these can be obtained rather wide than deep it will be preferable; if however it is desired to have really specimen plants, the pans should be about a foot across, and double the number of tubers employed. The soil most suitable is composed of loam and peat in about equal proportions, with a little well-rotted manure and silver-sand; it is not necessary

to sift it very finely, and a good proportion of drainage should be used. The plant should be inserted about an inch below the surface, the pans filled up, and watered with a fine rose, with water off which the chill has been taken ; they should then be replaced in the frame, and placed so as to receive bottom heat ; this is only applicable to those which are started early in the season, those started later will answer without so much heat during their growth ; it is well to shade them, and there is no place in which they flourish better than in a late viney.

When the plants are four or five inches in length, they should be stopped in order to cause them to break freely, and when it becomes necessary, they should be tied out ; they may, when they show flower, be brought into the conservatory or drawing-room, where their profusion of bloom will not fail to excite admiration. When the bloom is over they should be placed in a shady place, watered two or three times in order to induce the tubers to swell, then cut down, and the pots laid on their sides under a stage where they will obtain not a lower temperature than 35° or 40° .

Mauve Queen is thus described in the Proceedings of the Royal Horticultural Society, from the Floral Committee of which body it has received a first-class certificate :—“ A fine and showy, large-flowered variety, the flowers of which measured three inches across and were of a crimson-purple, somewhat redder about the eye, and thickly spotted below the eye with crimson dots on yellow ground. The flowers were larger than those of *longiflora major*, more richly marked about the edge, and of remarkable substance, rendering it a most desirable addition to this family.”



PLATE 125.

POMPON DAHLIAS.

Dahlia superflua, var.

Under the title of Pompon or Lilliputian Dahlias, there have been lately introduced to our gardens some varieties of this popular flower, which bid fair to be a great ornament, and very useful for cutting for bouquets, a purpose for which the ordinary kinds of Dahlias are, from their large size, unfitted. The Royal Horticultural Society, considering them worthy of cultivation, offered special prizes for them, grown in pots, a purpose for which we believe them to be quite unsuitable; a collection of cut blooms of the best varieties in cultivation was however shown by Mr. John Cattell, of Westerham; and from them those which we now figure were selected for illustration.

The following notes, supplied to us by Mr. Heale, the intelligent foreman of Mr. Cattell, will be found interesting:—"Lilliputian Dahlias, like fancy Pelargoniums, seem to have sprung up suddenly and without any precise data, as to where they originated, although I imagine they owe their origin to the German florists, for it is from them at present we get our new varieties. They are of easy culture, requiring light rich soil; this makes the flower more double; but I do not find that richness of soil, or rank growth, affect the size of the flower to any perceptible degree. The only objection to them is their tall habit of growth,* many of the varieties reaching four or five feet, and some even six feet, making them quite out of place in the flower-garden, unless pegged down; the flowers, like all Dahlias, are produced in the greatest profusion. The only variety adapted for bedding is a beautiful white, named *Pearl*, although this is almost too large a flower to be classed as a Lilliputian; this variety is of very dwarf habit, not growing

* It is for this reason we believe them to be unsuitable for pot culture.

more than eighteen inches high, and the flowers are very pure in colour. When the hybridizer has been enabled to reduce the height of this interesting class, nothing will be more beautiful than beds of the individual colours, as there is a character and richness of appearance, combined with elegance, almost indescribable."

We subjoin, from the same authority, the names of a few of the best, varying in height from three to four feet:—*Gold Pheasant*, yellow, edged, and tipped with salmon-red. *Reinishman*, buff and salmon-yellow, bronze edge. *Little Valentine*, reddish crimson, flushed and tipped with white. *Bijou*, shaded rose, tipped with violet-crimson. *Hebe*, rich, deep amaranth-rose. *Little Philip*, creamy buff, edged with rosy pink. *Little Dorrit*, rich rose-shaded crimson. *Tom Tit*, bluish lilac, edged and tipped with violet-purple. *Little May*, richly tinted maroon-crimson. *Little Mistress*, rich violet self-purple. *Little Darling*, bright amaranth-rose. *Pearl*, pure white (eighteen inches high). *Little Phœbus*, rich blush, tipped with violet-crimson. *Goldfinch*, rich golden yellow, bronze centre. *Dr. Webb*, rich scarlet. *Star*, orange, tipped with scarlet. *Fairy Nymph*, clear rosy lilac. *Little Kate*, small, velvety, purplish crimson; and *Little Whilemine*, blush, with rosy pink.

Of these we have figured, *Little Whilemine* (fig. 1), blush, tipped with rosy pink; *Little Darling* (fig. 2), a bright amaranth-rose, of exquisite shape,—a miniature *Lord Derby*,—and *Little Philip* (fig. 3), reflexed in shape, a pretty creamy buff, edged with rosy pink.



PLATE 126.

NEW VARIEGATED JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE.

*Lonicera reticulata.**

Amongst the treasures sent home by that distinguished traveller Mr. R. Fortune, during his recent visit to Japan, was the very beautiful Honeysuckle which, under the above name, has been exhibited during the past season at both the Royal Botanic and Royal Horticultural Societies, and in each case received from them the highest award, a first-class certificate; and to Mr. Standish, in whose possession it is, we are indebted for the opportunity of figuring it. It was, when shown by him, grown on a trellis, and had a very ornamental appearance, but as the plants had been for some time in heat, and been closely cut for propagation, its full beauty, we doubt not, was not even then appreciable.

To Mr. Fortune we are indebted for the following brief notice:—“This fine Honeysuckle was found by me, in gardens, near Yedo, the capital city of Japan. It is a very ornamental plant, and is much prized by Japanese amateurs and gardeners; the light-green of its leaves, covered all over with a network of golden veins, somewhat like an *Anæctochilus*, renders the plant singularly attractive and beautiful. In Japan it produces a pretty effect when trained over trellis-work, or allowed to ramble on the ground like our common English *Vinca*, or Periwinkle. It will probably prove quite hardy in this country, and will, I think, be useful in cool greenhouses and conservatories.”

The question which will most determine its value is its hardi-

* Although it has been figured under a different name, and advertised by M. Verschaffelt as a variegated variety of *L. brachypoda*, we have preferred to retain the name under which it has been distributed to the public by Mr. Standish.

ness, and if, as we heard some eminent plant-growers assert the other day, it be a variety of *L. brachypoda*, it will probably prove as hardy, in which case it will be a great acquisition, and doubtless, when planted in a cool situation, the colouring will be much more vivid than it has yet been seen in Europe ; it is very free in its habit of growth, and easily propagated, so that we doubt not that in a short time it will find its way into most gardens. Mr. Standish is now sending it out.

As exhibited by Mr. Standish, it formed a very pretty trellis plant, the stems when ripe being of a deep red colour ; the leaves are of two kinds, some being deeply cut, somewhat similar to an oak, while others are simple (this we believe is also characteristic of *L. brachypoda*). In the figure they are drawn of the natural size, viz. about two and a half inches long by two inches in breadth, and are of a bright lively green, veined in every direction with golden yellow, and in its natural growth the midrib is of a bright carmine ; so that it will be readily seen how very ornamental it will be when well grown in a sheltered position, in the open air.



PLATE 127.

THE LARGER GLITTERING NERINE.

Nerine corusca major.

Under this name we have figured, through the kind permission of Charles Leach, Esq., of King's Road, Clapham (now so well known, as the successful grower of *Disa grandiflora* and of Cape bulbs in general), a very desirable flowering bulb, and have by him been kindly supplied with the following information relative to it:—

“About fifteen years since, among a parcel of bulbs which were sent to me from the Cape, were about a dozen, the size of a Snowdrop, with the name of *Nerine flexuosa*. The bulbs, being small, were planted perhaps six in a pot, and when their leaves were fully grown, I noticed that those of one of the little bulbs were quite unlike those of the others, and I separated it from them at the re-potting time in the ensuing autumn, and then grew it by itself for three or four years until it came into flower, when, looking into Mr. Loudon's work on bulbous plants, I concluded it to be the *Nerine corusca* figured there. At the same time that I was nursing this, I was endeavouring to coax into flower also two or three little bulbs, which Mr. Arthur Henderson had been kind enough to get for me, supposed to be the true *N. corusca*. A year or two afterwards, when these, instead of increasing in size to that of *N. Sarniensis*, or common Guernsey Lily, as the Cape bulb had done, had gone off into almost innumerable offsets, I at length obtained a bloom, very like in colour and character to the Cape bulb, but far inferior to it in all its dimensions, certainly not half its size.”

“On referring to Herbert's 'Amaryllids,' I saw that the Dean described 'corusca' as spawning too abundantly; and as the two or three little bulbs I received from Mr. Henderson fully

answer this description, having multiplied already into a good round hundred or more, seldom flowering, and remaining always very diminutive, there is no doubt of their being the *N. corusca* of Herbert; and mine I have distinguished as '*corusca major*,' a character it is well entitled to, not alone for the superior size of its flower, but for that also of its bulb and leaves, which latter exceed greatly in width all the other *Nerines* that I possess, and which are so unlike that of the spawning variety, that if species were determinable by leaves, my variety ought to be a new one.

"To the above there only remains to be added, that the increase of my variety is now by offsets, at about the rate of the Guernsey Lily; and that it is grown in the same house as my *Disas*, *Brunsvigias*, etc.; that is, it has a temperature in winter from 35° to 45° , with plenty of air when weather permits."

Of the great beauty of the flower we think there cannot be a second opinion, and its points of superiority to the older variety have been clearly put by Mr. Leach. As, like its congeners, the bloom is produced before the leaves make their appearance, we have not been able to accompany the illustration with a figure of them, but, as our object is to direct attention to it as an ornamental plant, very desirable for conservatories in the autumnal months, that is a matter of comparatively little moment. We can, however, corroborate Mr. Leach's statement from bulbs in our own possession, which he most kindly favoured us with. It flourishes in good yellow loam with a fair admixture of sand.



PLATE 128.

MAUVE-COLOURED NOLANA.

Nolana atriplicifolia, var. subcærulea.

The pretty bell-shaped flowers, *Nolana*, are well known to all who admire and cultivate the numerous tribe of annuals which are so extensively grown, especially in small gardens; and the variety which we now figure is a pleasing addition to them, which we are, through the kind permission of Messrs. Carter and Co., enabled to figure in our present illustration.

We learn from them that it originated in their seed-farm about seven years ago. It being their habit to grow species of the same genera near to one another, it will of course sometimes happen that through the means either of bees or moths, or other agencies, hybridization takes place; and when any plant of merit appears amongst them it is immediately selected, and then grown for some years in order to ascertain if it keeps its character permanently, and if it do so, it is then brought forward. It was in this manner that the present variety was originated, and it will be welcomed as a very delicately-coloured addition to this elegant class of annuals.

There was exhibited at the June show of the Royal Horticultural Society, by Messrs. Veitch and Son, another *Nolana*, called *lanceolata*, which promises to be a showy plant, having the usual trailing habit of the tribe, with large blue flowers, and apparently of a vigorous style of growth: it received a bronze medal. The one we now figure has the same trailing habit, but with pale mauve-coloured flowers, which are produced in great profusion.

We remarked in our last number on the very large quantity of annuals grown by Messrs. Carter for the purpose of meeting the wants of their customers in all quarters of the globe; in so doing, our remarks may have led some to suppose that when we

spoke of many being grown by the Sardinian correspondent of Messrs. Barr and Sugden, it may have meant that they were so grown for the Messrs. Carter. Such is not the case, as his growth is, we believe, exclusively appropriated to the former firm. Our intention was to show that the demand was so great that many growers were engaged in a somewhat similar work to that for which the Holborn firm has been for so many years distinguished, and in which it still holds the pre-eminence.





